Kelso retires early over scandal

washington (AFP) — Admiral Frank Kelso announced Tuesday as last asked to retire early so the navy can finally close the case on a misconduct scandal. Adm. Kelso, the navy's top uniformed officer, announced he will retire April 30, two months earlier than scheduled, because he believed the Tailhook case was resolved and that he had the support of the Pentagon's top leaders. He announced his retirement amid allegations that he tried to cover up his knowledge of events at the 1991 Tailbook convention in Las Vegas, Nevada, where male aviators were accused of sexually harassing 80 women, including officers. "I had a responsibility to lead the navy through the process of changing the climate which allowed this incident to occur. Having done so, it is my intention to submit my request for retirement that and the control of the a of April 30, 1994," Adm. Kelso said. He said he decided to resign on his own and had not been asked to do so by Defence Secretary William Perry and Navy Secretary John Dalton. "I became the lightning rod for Tailhook," Adm. Kelso said in explaining his decision to resign to allow the navy to get beyond the Tailhook



Arafat plans Gulf reconciliation tour

TUNIS (R) — Yasser Arafat plans to visit several Gulf Arab states to repair ties damaged during the Gulf war over his sympathy for Iraq, officials said on Tuesday. "There are contacts to arrange such visits at the right moment," Hakam Balawi, a Central Committee member of Fateh, told Reuters. He said Mr. Arafat was expected to visit the United Arab Emirates. Oatar. Bahrain and Oman over the next weeks.

Volume 18 Number 5540

AMMAN WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1994, RAMADAN 6, 1414

Price: Jordan 150 Fils

a series of less said here Man court travelled a 'Rabin: Many settlers States, last step want to quit Gaza direction and Spyros Vertical and Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin Schurz and a parliament panel Tues-

BRUARY 15, 16

a Mercouri

talised in ' ork

S (AFP) = N . Carrell unmag $w_{d,s} \cdot \mathsf{ad}_{m_{H_{\mathbf{f}_{s}}}}$

d Hospital in

diplomat

und to herom

Ministry said :

y Abdoul Karaa

n the United State

the minetry ${\mathbb A}_{{\mathbb F}_2}$

alian Navy

ers driven

AND GARRES

ian armed with 2.

e sar an myadings.

alich Savysalor

and on my beating.

the authoritie

here Monday

of 15 Australiana

 $170\,m_\odot/(h_0)/J_{ceh}$

a har the remotely

oremandel penns

ere. Saturda de 1

ied toward a hor:

what they were get

ig to CommodureF

d twice into the

s were sustained

nt coins

∺ermitage

nio the Hermit

an the northern

of St. Percisburga.

" Rosas Jone #

: thord century !

esteron repond 🧎

ad the room when

te being stored&"

alarm and addel?

hard concluded?

re stoden by a tella

ald probable 160

ton sale on the "-

Nothing cleans?

marking Roll,

which housest

t president a

officials could be

ter comment

its battling

ep child

support

ar-old Teres illmb

to not the fire

Kapi alise hedr

r tilling and emp

her parents to

afficials who made

and be takenal

"She is highting

mu Scotty Bus

will not abut

ite We will not

e away tishir

ne Suttening

It is a timuly tell

_{rain dead}

Covert said

thick with i brain activity W

ad state three

farmer

Marketon has received appeals to the control of terrish set tuning trop from hundreds of Jewish setthe also unden their seeking to leave their to their the occupied Gaza from spine in Part said he was not yet homes at Strip. But said he was not yet willing to authorise compensainon for the settlers. "I don't want to help them at this stage," Mr. Rabin told the With heroin foreign affairs and defence committee, according to reomm whe meeting. "Whoever wants Matter with queen to leave can leave but if the Jody aubout government were to say it is und with tour would further encourse leaving, and I don't want to en-The drug was high courage this line."

Sc Pottomora w U.S. moves towards Japan sanctions

WASHINGTON (AFP) -The United States took the first step towards imposing trade sanctions against Japan on Tuesday, with a ruling that Japan had violated a 1989 agreement to allow U.S. access to Japan's cellular telephone market. U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor said he would announce possible trade sanctions within 30 days. (see page 7)

Egypt assails AFP

CAIRO (R) — The Egyptian government attacked the french news agency Agence France Presse (AFP) on Tuesday but later dropped a threat in take legal action over its of the New Zee aporting on an explosion in the Nile Delta. A ministry e Australian, quo marching orders. statement accused AFP of armed with a केट्र maliciously publishing lies and mid it had "persistently sought empth retreate v real force." The foreign press in general have given wide coverage to statements from Al Gamas Al Islamiyah advising tourists and foreign inves tors to leave the country for their own safety. The ministry statement denounced AFP for using the title Al Gamaa Al Islamiyah instead of "terroirst groups," saying this suggested the security forces were waging war on Islam.

Prosecutors wrap up U.S. blast case

NEW YORK (AFP) - Conduding a five-month trial, a prosecutor said a mountain of evidence shows beyond doubt that four suspects plotted the February 1993 bombing of New York's World Trade Centre. "They left death, destruction, chaos and horror in their wake," assistant U.S. Attortey Henry Depippo said Mon-day in his closing argument. collections in Es. They also left some very important things, some very im-portant clues." The prosecutor was to resume his argument Tuesday and defence attorneys were to make their arguments afterward in the federal conpuacy trial of Ahmad Ajaj. Mohammad Salameh, Nidal Ayyad and Mahmoud Abu

Russia, Britain to retarget missiles

MOSCOW (AFP) - The leaders of Russia and Britain more can be don't amed a statement here Tuesday agreeing to retarget their mategic nuclear missiles away from each other's country, ltar-Tass said. The declaration signed at the Kremlin by Russian President Boris Yeltis not the class. all highway to a and British Prime Minister John Major a month after the United States and Russia ^{nigo}ed a similar pledge.

ry to maintain be of a patient thate Accused Florida serial ho has been cons killer pleads guilty

ublicatour_{ité} ezite. Pritu deur Her GAINESVILLE (R) - Acright thirty pro-right thirty pro-ling pleaded guilty in a Florida court Transfer. in the Part of the in the part of college students in 1990. Mr. Rolling, appearing in court at the starr of interest in the starr of interes mmuter his giri length the state of the state o the start of jury selection for Teres have a stabbing and mutilation deaths of the students of the students, told the judge. There are some things you just can't run feet attricult from just can't run from."

Jordan, PLO make major headway in streamlining coordination committees

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter with Agency dispatches

AMMAN — Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) ended their first day of meetings here Tuesday optimistic that they have laid a new ground for coordinating strategy towards Middle East peace negotiations and closer ties between the Kingdom and envisaged Palestinian self-rule areas.

"Today's meeting was fruitful and useful to the furthest extent for there was a high degree of agreement on a lot of issues," Information Minister Jawad Anani told reporters.

The head of the PLO's information department, Yasser Abed Rabbo, also speaking to reporters at the Foreign Ministry, said the two sides were able to "overcome all the problems on the agenda."

"I believe that this meeting was conducted in a practical spirit which will enable us to take marked steps forward whether on the Jordanian-Palestinian level or in what touches the two sides' position towards the negotiating process," Mr. Abed Rabbo said.

The .neeting of the Jordan-PLO Higher Political Committee, which supervises seven teams discussing issues ranging from security and borders to Jerusalem and Palestinian refugees, came six days after Israel and the PLO signed a

security pact in Cairo. His Majesty King Hussein and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat agreed to convene the meetings during brief talks in Amman last week. At its last meeting in January, the joint committee endorsed an economic accord clearing the way for Jordanian banks to reopen in the West Bank for the first time since the 1967 war.

The steps agreed Tuesday, to include a schedule of meetings of the joint committees, would allow coordination of strategy as Middle East peace talks launched in October 1991 enter a more serious stage, the two sides said.

The new effort to cooperate followed last week's Israeli-PLO agreement on security in the proposed self-rule areas of the Gaza Strip and Jericho which brought an Israeli troop withdrawal closer. It also came after Jordan complained of a lack of consultation.

tive change in the level of our coordination," Dr. Anani said.

"What is most important about this particular meeting is that, after evaluation of our previous coordination, we agreed we should be much more specific about how we proceed with our coordination. how to make it more committing to both parties and when we should meet," Dr. Anani

Officials from both sides said the talks focused on economic cooperation and details such as movement of people and goods between Amman and Palestinian self-rule areas in light of the security agreement.

"This meeting acquired a practical spirit that will enable us to proceed in tangible steps forward, be it on the Jordanian-Palestinian track or in supporting either side in the Middle East peace process," said Mr. Abed Rabbo. Jordanian sources said mem-

bers of a joint monetary committee to oversee banking operations would be named during the current meeting. The PLO's foreign affairs

(Continued on page 5)

Israel, PLO near accord to give the impression that to give the impression that the fact valuation the last tenomity from the impression that the fact valuation the last tenomity from the impression that the im

TABA, Egypt (Agencies) — civil defence and intelligence services, according to chief PLO negotiator Nabil Shaath. neared agreement Tuesday on setting up a Palestinian police force in Gaza and Jericho, a negotiator said.

We have succeeded in reducing differences over how the Palestinian police will be structured and armed, and I hope that an accord will be initialled in the next 24 hours," PLO negotiator Hassan Asfour

Israel and the PLO started drafting a document on the force to be deployed in the self-rule areas of the Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho, Mr. Asfour said during talks in the Egyptian Red Sea resort of Taba.

Differences remain over "how large the force should be and how many weapons it should have," Mr. Asfour

The PLO wants a force of 9,000 police for Gaza and Jericho, while Israel has set a ceiling of 6,000, including the

services, according to chief meanwhile visited Gaza City PLO negotiator Nabil Shaath. on Tuesday on a mission to Israel's Police Minister Moshe Shahal said here that the Palestinians would be allowed to use the same light

request for tanks was rejected. The PLO also wanted speed boats to patrol parts of the Mediterranean coast allotted to it under last week's Cairo accord on the main security issues which have delayed launching self-rule by two

weapons and armoured cars as

their Israel counterparts, but a

General Amnon Shaba the chief Israeli negotiator, said 'progress" had been achieved. "I predict that at the end of this week, we will be able to

give details." Dr. Shaath said Monday that the police would be deployed before Israeli troops withdraw so as to "avoid a vacuum" in security. Under the September autonomy accord, a fourmonth pullout was to have started Dec. 13.

Two top British policemen draw up plans to train and offer technical assistance to the Palestinian police. French Foreign Minister

Alain Juppe, on a visit to Israel and the occupied territories, urged Israel to free Palestinian prisoners and halt the spread of Jewish settlements to boost Palestinian autonomy. (see Israeli Prime Minister Yit-

that Israel would take the time necessary to reach a detailed, overall agreement on autonomy with the PLO. 'I hope the negotiations on

zhak Rabin insisted Tuesday

an agreement about Gaza-Jericho will not take too much time," Mr. Rabin said. "We have no intention of

dragging things out, or on the other hand to rush into it. The important thing is to reach an overall agreement, which is detailed and clear and can be

(Continued on page 5)



Deputy Prime Minister Saeed Al Tal (left) and Palestine Liberation Organisation Political Department head Farouk Kaddoumi during a

break in Jordanian-Palestinian talks held at the Foreign Ministry on Tuesday (Photo by Yousef

Faisal to press her case with protest

By Mariam M. Shahin Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - Deputy Toujan Faisal, who has accused fellow Deputy Jamal Khreisha of insulting and slandering her and of attempting to assault her during a parliamentary committee meeting, is going ahead with a plan to hold a protest in front of the Parliament building

today to press her case.

Ms. Faisal, Jordan's first elected said mediation efforts by House Speaker Taher Al Masri and leaders of her Circassian community had not made much headway. She said she was insisting that Mr. Khreisha apologise to her and Mr. Masri had responded that he could only try to bring the two deputies

No comment was available from Mr. Khreisha.

Circassian community leaders were meeting with their counter-parts from Mr. Khreisha's tribe from the central bedouin district Tuesday. No details were immediately available on the outcome of those contacts. Ms. Faisal and her supporters

are demanding that Parliament strip Mr. Khreisha of his immunity against prosecution. Ms. Faisal is suing him for "insult, slander and (attempted) assault" and is seeking

JD 1 million in damages.

According to Ms. Faisal, who says she has witnesses to prove her allegations, Mr. Khreisha abused her and her community and also threw an ashtray at her following a difference of points of view that emerged during a parliamentary

panel meeting on Saturday.
"I have not received an apology from Mr. Khreisha or the tribe he represents," Ms. Faisal said. "The lawenit is on "

According to Ms. Faisal, she is seeking to "teach people that democracy, individual freedoms (Continued on page 5)

Bilaterals resume with Syria-Israel status quo

WASHINGTON (Agencies) - Peace talks between Israel and the Arabs resumed Tuesday, with the critical talks between Israel and Syria apparently paralysed.

The heads of the Israeli, Palestinian, Jordanian, Syrian and Lebanese delegations started meeting quietly Tuesday after a two-week break.

The profile of the talks had been lowered beginning this year when talks elsewhere, most recently in Egypt between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), began to yield fruit.

The State Department has also moved its discussions from its headquarters to a downtown office building, and stopped counting how many rounds have taken place.

"These are streamlined, informal discussions which no longer carry numbers. Roman. Arabic or otherwise," said State Department spokesman Mike McCurry. "Same format, same press arrangements, which is to say no press

The spokesman declined to get involved in a debate with the government-controlled Syrian press which called the signing of a security agreement between the PLO and Israel a catastrophe.

"We don't respond to every characterisation they have of the progress being made in some other track," said Mr. McCurry.

But he said that the United States was urging Syria to back the ongoing peace process, especially agreements reached between the Jewish state and the PLO.

"We think that is a useful step towards a comprehensive and lasting peace for the entire region, a peace that Syria itself could one day participate in," added Mr. McCurry.

The apparently stalled Syrian-Israeli talks have also stopped progress between cause of Syria's key role in Lebanese affairs.

(Continued on page 5)

was wounded superficially in

2 suspects admit complicity in Maaytah murder

BEIRUT (AP) - Two Palestinian suspects admitted com-plicity Tuesday in last month's assassination of Jordanian diplomat Nayeb Imran Maaytah. judicial sources said.

Bassam Abdullah Atiyeh and Salim Kassem Mehio told Examining Magistrate Saeed Misza that they accompanied the alleged assassin, Yousef Mahmoud Shaaban, to the shooting and fled together with him, according to the sources. who spoke in exchange for anonymity. Further details of their statements were not

Mr. Maaytah, 42, the Jordanian Embassy's first secretary, was driving out of a car park near his home on Jan. 29 when he was shot dead by a gunman wielding a 9-mm pistol.

The three Palestinian suspects were arrested several days after the killing, which was a blow to Lebanon's efforts to clean up its image from the civil war years as a terrorist haven.

They are being held in solitary confinement pending a decision by the magistrate on whether to press charges. Their ages are not known.

Security sources say the suspects belong to a Palestinian group led by the notorious Abu Nidal.

Jordanian and Lebanese sources believe Abu Nidal was behind Mr. Maaytah's killing. But Abu Nidal's group, the Fateh-Revolutionary Council,

has denied the allegation. Mr. Atiyeh's and Mr. Kassem's admissions were in line with an account by Mr Shaaban's girlfriend, Itaf Yousef. She told interrogators

(Continued on page 5)

Gaza teenager shot dead

OCCUPIED GAZA (Agencies) — Israeli soldiers shot dead a Palestinian teenager in the Occupied Gaza Strip Tues-

day, Palestinian sources said. Palestinian sources said Ihab Barakat, 17, was shot on his way to school during a stonethrowing incident in a refugee camp near the town of Rafah. His death was confirmed by a local hospital.

Israel's Itim news agency said soldiers opened fire while breaking up a protest outside the home of a Palestinian who was shot by troops last week and died of his wounds on Monday. The army said Farez Abu Zakkar, 17, had been on its wanted list.

Police said earlier on Tuesday that a Palestinian had stabbed and slightly wounded an Israeli in the southern town of

The suspected attacker, a teenager from the occupied. Gaza Strip, was arrested. Hospital officials said the Israeh

SARAJEVO (Agencies) -

Bosnian Serb leaders rejected

demands Tuesday for the with-

drawal of all their heavy arms

from around Sarajevo, as divi-

sions reportedly emerged be-

tween the North Atlantic Trea-

ty Organisation (NATO) and

the U.N. over interpretation of

threats against the besieging

the head and neck. On the West Bank, the army closed a mosque near Ramal-

lah saying it had been a propaganda centre for Izzedine Al Qassam, the armed wing of the Islamic Resistance Movement Hamas. The group announced Tues-

day that it was carrying out a "Ramadan plan" avenge the killing of Palestinians by Israeli "Vengeance will be taken

anywhere. The blood of our militants will not flow unpunished and the Ramadan plan has begun," the armed wing said.

Hamas claimed responsibility for killing an Israeli secret service agent and wounding two more near Ramallah on Sunday. A Palestinian double agent, who had collaborated with the authorities, led the Israelis into a trap, military

Israelis meanwhile began

dismantling the Gaza City lockup in a first sign of troop redeployment under the accord on Palestinian auton-

In Gaza City, hundreds of Palestinians watched as flatbed trucks pulled seven trailer barracks out of the Gaza central prison that holds 850 security

A Hebrew slogan sprayed on the side of one of the white trailers read "we will never leave Eretz Israel." Troops also climbed onto

the prison roof and took down antennas and small transmitters, Arab reporters said. "It is clear that the peac

agreement is real," said AK Hamada, a 20-year-old student at Gaza City's Islamic University, said as he stood watching soldiers lifting the white trailers onto trucks. "I'm happy but a little scared because I really don't believe what I'm seeing.

Rifai secures prestigious council seat; Badran resigns in protest

By Nermeen Murad Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — As largely expected former Prime Minister Zeid Rifai was appointed by consensus Tuesday to the Higher Council for the Interpretation of Legislation, but his election drew a strong reaction from his political arch-rival former Prime Minister Mudar Badran, who submitted his resignation from the prestigious council in protest.

Mr. Badran confirmed to the Jordan Times he had resigned, he would not elaborate on the reasons.

The Upper House of Parliament yesterday chose Mr. Rifai to replace the late former prime minister, Bahjat Al Talhouni, in the ninemember panel composed of the speaker of the Senate, five senior judges and three

approval of his nomination Tuesday, was to join Mr. Badran and Senator Ahmad Tarawneh. But a source in the Senate said Mr. Badran had boycotted the Senate meeting in the morning and submitted his resignation from the council. In addition to Mr. Badran,

another former prime minis-ter, Ahmad Obeidat, was also absent from Tuesday's Senate session. Their absence drew criticism from senators who felt since there was no voting on the Rifai nomination there was no need for them to stay away. Supporters of Mr. Badran

say that his resignation carries a "strong political message" that he is uncomfortable with the "rehabilitation of Mr. Rifai."

Government sources con-

tacted by the Jordan Times

said that there may be



attempts to convince Mr. Badran to reconsider his decision, but that the regular procedure would be to elect a replacement for Mr. Badran in the council.

Analysts believe that the spillover of rivalry between the two former premiers has caused a "political crisis" in the Senate. The analysts say that the

problem is particularly dis-turbing since it is taking place in an institution that is supposed to remain above bickering typical of the Lower House of Parliament where deputies are elected by the different political and social trends in the country and not appointed by royal decree.

(Continued on page 5)

country.

In Moscow, President Boris But supporters of Mr. Bad-Yeltsin warned the West not to ran say that the Senate has bypass Moscow in seeking a been "polarised" in support solution to the bosnian conof Mr. Rifai, and this was alienating other political "Some people are trying to forces who feel that they have

resolve the Bosnian question equally contributed to the without the participation of Russia, we will not allow this, - "While Rifai and Badran be said after signing a nuclear are similar in their conservaban agreement with visiting tive thinking, both have com-British Prime Minister John pletely different views on

Mr. Yeltsin's blunt remark

suggested Moscow feared the NATO threat against Bosnian Serb, artiflery positions around Sarajevo could rob it of any political role in helping to solve the conflict.

Serbs defy NATO ultimatum

NATO has set a deadline of midnight GMT on Sunday for the Serbs to withdraw their big guns from around the Bosnian capital or face aerial bombard-

Bosnian Serb military leader General Ratko Miadic told the Tanjug news agency his weapons would not be withdrawn in line with the NATO deadline due to fall midnight Sunday.

But Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic, speaking in his stronghold in Pale outside Sarajevo, said he was ready to order the regrouping of "part" of his heavy artillery "in order

to facilitate monitoring" by United Nations peacekeepers. However, he told the Bosnian Serb SRNA agency that withdrawing all the heavy weaponry might prove "pointless" as there were "good chances" of finding a "partial

Gen. Mladic said: "We will not leave our people defenceless. Nothing can force us to abandon our people in the face

solution" to the Sarajevo cri-

of fanatical Muslim units." Gen. Mladic spoke after a meeting with U.N. Protection Force (UNPROFOR) commanders for former Yugoslavia, General Jean Cot, and for Bosnia, Gen. Sir Michael Rose, at the Bosnian Serb

Lukavica barracks near (Continued on page 5)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Vatican envoy in Israel presents credentials

TEL AVIV (AFP) - The Vatican's first diplomatic envoy to

Israel, Monsignor Andrea Cordero Lanza di Montezemolo,

presented his credentials on Monday to Foreign Minister

Shimon Peres, officials said. Mr. Cordero di Montezemolo who

will have the title of "special representative," will have his

office in Jaffa, near Tel Aviv. Jaffa has a large Franciscan

community. Israel's first diplomatic envoy to the Vatican

Shmuel Hadas presented his credentials to Pope John Paul II

on Thursday. Under their "fundamental agreement" signed

Appointment of new governor | Israeli jets bomb Lebanon inflames Yemeni political crisis

SANAA (Agencies) — The appointment of a new governor has inflamed passions in Yemen just a week before feuding political parties are due to sign an accord aimed at salvaging the 'country's threatened unity.

Prime Minister Haidar Abu Bakr Al Attas, member of the southern-based Yemen Socialist Party (YSP), appointed a new governor to a southern pro-vince in a decree issued on Monday.

.:·.

.

:=:

1.1

file gar 20 | S

Tt

Τι

da 48 (\$

jo ea

7

But the decree was quickly over-ruled by the presidential council, currently dominated by the YSP's northern rival, the General Peoples Congress (GPC), and condemned by the third party in Yemen's coali-

tion government.
"(The decree was) in violation of the constitution, since appointment of senior officials lies within the jurisdiction of the council." Radio Sanaa re-

The YSP and GPC, mired for months in political rivalry, were the ruling parties of former South and North Yemen respectively before the two merged in May 1990.

With Yemen facing its worst political crisis since unification, ruling and opposition parties are due to sign an agreement in Amman next week, providing for military, economic and administrative reforms.

Mr. Attas, according to Aden Television, appointed Mohammad Ali Ahmad as governor of the southern province of Abyan to succeed the outgoing governor, Yahya Al Ra'i, who had been elected a deputy in a by-election.

Under the constitution, civil servants should resign their post upon their election to the 301-member parliament.

(The decree) runs counter to the law and constitution and harms the higher-interests of the country," one GPC official was quoted on Radio Sanaa as saying. "We call on all political forces to condemn this behaviour which is aimed at obstructing the signing of the accord."

The Islamist Islah Party, third member of Yemen's coalition government, also denounced the appointment.
"The least that call be said of "" the Attas measure is that it is was no cover. secessionist," the Padre quoted vil an Islah oficial as saying. "We" to have sought refuge in one of cannot find any explanation of Hashed's strongholds to the this unlawful measure except that it reflects the desire to

The Associated Press

NETZARIM, occupied Gaza

Strip — This isolated Jewish

settlement keeps out Palesti-

nians with two lines of elec-

tric fences, barbed wire and

watchtowers. But the real

threat to its existence comes

Senior 'officials like

Foreign Minister Shimon

Peres say it will take too

many soldiers and too much

money to sustain small.

vulnerable Netzarim and

it's worrisome. But it gives us

more motivation to prove

that we will stay here," set-

tler Itzhak Wasana, 26, said

Monday as he walked on a

sandy path along one of the

Later Monday, the settler council representing 144 set-

barbed-wire fences.

"If Peres says such a thing

perhaps other settlements.

from Israel these days.

continue the tense political situation and incite other political parties in order to create obstacles to arrangements for the signing of the accord."

The presidential council is made up of five members, but the two YSP representatives ---Vice-President Ali Salem Al Beedh and Salem Saleh Mohammad — have been boycotting it.

The remaining three are President Ali Abdullah Saleh and Abdul Aziz Abdul Ghani of the GPC and Abdul Maguid Al Zindani of the Islah Party.

The decree and counter-decree were broadeast-by Aden Television and Radio Sanaa run respectively by the YSP and the GPC. Aden Television ignored the presidential council's decree in its bulletin early

on Tuesday. Mr. Attas, like Mr. Beedh and other YSP officials have been staying in Aden, capital of the former South Yemen and stronghold of the YSP. Cabinet meetings in Sanaa are chaired by Hassan Makki, first deputy prime minister and GPC member.

Tribal fued

A feud between members of Yemen's two biggest tribal confederations has sent the price of cooking gas spiralling tenfold as tribesmen hold up trucks carrying butane cylinders, political and tribal sources said Tuesday.

Residents of Sanaa and other cities have been queuing over the past few days in search for the gas. The official price for butane is 45 rials (\$0.75) per cylinder, but the newspaper Al Shoura said the price has jumped as high as 500

Members of the Bakil confederation were holding trucks belonging to members of the other confederation, Hashed, charging that a Hashed businessman failed to pay the price of cars he bought from them, the sources said.

Tribal sources said the businessman, whose name has been linked in newspaper reports over the past few days to cases of fraud and forgery, gave the Bakil members postdated cheques for which there

The businessman is reported

tlements in the West Bank

and Gaza Strip announced a

registration drive for volun-

teers willing to block troops

with passive resistance at en-

From Netzarim, popula-

tion 180, the outskirts of

dangered settlements.

Dec. 13 deadline.

In a bid to force the author-

NABATTYEH (Agencies) --Israeli warplanes blasted bases of resistance fighters in two assaults Tuesday.

ities to act and guarantee their

rights, the Bakil people cut the

roads from the Marib area

where butane gas is produced

and held the trucks, preventing

them from proceeding to

Sanaa and other areas, the

The two confederations

were also involved in a dispute

over a road in the northwest-

ern area of Hajjah last month

which led two members of the

Bakil seizing three French

tourists and holding them hos-

Saturday following pledges by the authorities to find a solu-

tion to the problem of the

road, which was originally

planned to cross Bakil land but

has been rerouted to go

Hashed is led by Sheikh

Abdullah Bein Hussein Al

Ahmar, speaker of the parlia-

ment and leader of the Islamist

Convicts seek amnesty

Three kidnapped Chinese

engineers are in the hands of

wanted murderers who are de-

manding that the authorities

drop death sentences against

them, a Chinese embassy offi-

three Yemeni kidnappers want

the government to cancel

death sentences pronounced

against them in absentia." ear-

ly in January, embassy Second

Secretary Luo Xiao Guang

The kidnappers are wanted

"No progress was made by

for several murders, Yemeni

the authorities in their talks

with the kidnappers," he said.

One of the hostages is chief engineer Yanj Yi, 55, accord-

ing to the diplomat, who did

The hostages are held by members of the Khawlan tribe

in Hajanah region, 50

kilometres east of Sanaa, he

To win their release, the

embassy is in contact with the

ministries of interior and plan-

ning, and with influential Khal-

wan tribesmen as well, he said.

ped Saturday while working on a road project financed by Chi-na to link Hajanah and

Maareb, 17 kilometres east of

the capital, in the rugged and

The engineers were kidnap-

not name the two others.

sources said Monday.

To free the Chinese, the

cial said here Tuesday.

through Hashed areas.

Islah Party.

told AFP.

The three were freed on

sources said.

Security sources said at least one guerrilla of the Hizbollah group was wounded in the mid-morning attacks on the group's redoubts in South Lebanon.

The sources, who demanded anonymity, said the assaults targeted Hizbollah's arms hideouts and infiltration trails in Iqlim Al Tufah, which faces an enclave Israel occupied in the south.

Two F-16 fighter-bombers swooped down from thick clouds at 9:50 a.m. (0750 GMT) to fire four rockets on Jabal Safi and the nearby valley of Nabeh Tasseh in Iglim Al Tuffah, Hizbollah's main stronghold in South

Smoke and dust shrouded the region. Half an hour later, the jets returned to unleash five more rockets on Iolim Al Tufah's bluffs, according to the security SOURCES.

Eyewitnesses said guerrillas retaliated with nine surface-to-air missiles, but scarlet balloons released by Israeli pilots deflected them

The planes also dropped delayed-action bombs that continued to explode about an hour after the raids, according to the sources. In occupied Jerusalem, an

Israeli army spokesman confirmed the raid saying all aircraft returned safely to

"All the targets, which were in a zone entirely controlled by the Hizbollah.

reward of more than \$2 million

British Prime Minister John

Major said on Monday that

Iran could not expect to enjoy

"full and friendly relations"

with the rest of the world until

IRNA said: "World Muslims

and leaders of Muslim coun-

tries have made it clear that no

one has the right to alter or

hinder the implementation of

national issue specific to any

certain Muslim country...

according to divine laws, an

apostate like Rushdie, born

into a Muslim household, faces

the death sentence for blas-

pheming prophets and values

held dear by world Muslims.

ried out, irrespective of

whether the apostate repents

or not, because repentance in

such a case is a matter solely

concerning divine mercy in

"Political observers consider

the West's support for a sent-

enced apostate as being a gri-mace to the just demand of one

billion Muslims... Muslims will

not forget that insult, it added.

It criticised Britain for con-

tinuing to offer Mr. Rushide pro-

tection and lambasted Presi-

dent Bill Clinton for receiving

the writer in Washington last

The sentence has to be car-

"Salman Rushdie is not a

on Mr. Rushdie's head.

the sentence was lifted.

this decree.

were destroyed," he said. The Hizbollah positions were used for training and launching attacks on Israeli targets, he said.

A spokesman for Hizbollah in Beirut said there were no casualties in the attacks. "The warplanes only hit rocks," a Hizbollah spokesman told AFP.

The raids came three days after Hizbollah's Secretary General Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah warned his group would step up attacks against Israel in South Lebanon.

The Iranian-backed movement killed four Israeli soldiers and wounded five others on Feb. 7 in the bloodiest attack since August, triggering Israeli air strikes and artillery attacks and threats of further repris-

Cabinet change possible in

Kuwait

KUWAIT (R) - Kuwait's prime minister has not ruled out the possibility of a cabinet reshuffle following reports one is planned for next month, according to a newspaper re-

Al Seyasseh and its sister paper the English-language Arab Times newspaper on Monday quoted reliable sources as saying a reshuffle of the emirate's 16-member cabinet would take place after the annual 'Eid Al Fitr holiday

in mid- March. Tuesday's edition of Al Qabas said it had asked Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah whether the cabinet would resign in the way indicated by Al Seyasseh and the Arab Times.

It quoted him as replying: "The matters are bound by their timings - after a week, after a month, after a year - I don't want to hide anything from the people of Kuwait, and I don't want to say to them a thing that will not happen."

'Eid Al Fitt; which celebrates the end of the fasting month of Ramadan, falls this year on March 13-15.

"The main purpose of the change is to strengthen the net and boost its powers Al Seyasseh reported.

"The country's higher authorities believe it is high time the cabinet was reinforced in such a way as to achieve more harmony among cabinet members and prepare the government for new developments in the country which require unity and quick decision-making," the newspaper quoted its sources as saying.

The report said it was not clear how extensive the changes would be. It did not say which ministers would be replaced but added a number of people had been approached to see if they were interested in serving in a new cabinet.

It noted that current cabinet, formed after general elections in October 1992, includes a record six elected members of parliament (MPs).

The elections, restoring parliament after a six-year break, produced an outspoken assembly dominated by opposition veterans who have seldom hesitated in challenging different aspects of government

on Dec. 30, the Holy See and Israel will exchange "special representatives" before upgrading their relations after a few months to ambassadorial level. Israeli soldier dies in blast during training

TEL AVIV (AP) - An Israeli soldier died in an accident when a grenade went off in his vest as he trained for action in southern Lebanon, reports said Tuesday. The army said Shoshan Yanai, 20, of the southern town of Ofakim was killed. Monday while training for "operational action" on a firing range in northern Israel. It said the chief of staff Ehud Barak has appointed an investigation. Israeli newspapers said a preliminary investigation showed the grenade apparently exploded while it was still in Yanai's vest. The Haaretz daily said Yanai's unit was training for action in southern Lebanon. Last year 17 soldiers died in army accidents, three while in training, five while on duty in Lebanon and the rest mostly in traffic accidents, the newspapers said.

Traffickers, drugs, seized in Iran

NICOSIA (AP) - Iranian security forces have netted 92 drug traffickers in the northeastern province of Khorasan in a two-week crackdown, the Islamic Republic News Agency reported. The agency, said 720 kilogrammes of drugs were seized from the traffickers in the cities of Gezik. Gonabad, Torbate-e-Jam, Sabzevar, Qaeen and Kashmar. It said a small quantity of light arms and a number of vehicles also were seized. The brief dispatch did not say when the operation began or ended. Khorasan neighbours Iran's Sistan-Baluchestan province, which has been under tight security since violence erupted in its capital city, Zahedan, Feb. 1.

Iran opens repaired refuelling jetty

NICOSIA (AP) - A refuelling jetty in Iran's key oil port of Abadan, which was heavily bombed during the 1980-88 war with Iraq, was reopened Monday after 13 years. The Islamic Republic News Agency, said the jetty could only service vessels of up to five-metre draught and with a 2,000-tonne capacity. It said the jetty would service 1,200 trawlers, tugboats and merchant ships in the region. The facility, bombed in the early days of the war, was repaired by Oil Ministry workers, IRNA said. Throughout the war, the Iraqis repeatedly targeted Abadan and its surroundings in an effort to cripple Iran's oil exports, Tehran's economic lifeline, Abadan, in southern Iran, is known as Iran's oil capital. It houses what once was the world's largest refinery. The refinery also is under repair.

Lebanon wants to sell 10 grounded Mirages

BEIRUT (R) - The Lebanese government agreed Monday to sell 10 mirage fighter planes, grounded since the early days of Lebanon's 1975-90 civil war. The government of Prime Minister Rafik Al Hariri gave no further details in a statement after a cabinet session but officials said Pakistan had showed interest in buying the jets. They said the government has still to get a report from the military estimating the worth of the warplanes, bought by Lebanon from France in the 1960s. Lebanon had been pondering for several years whether to rebuild or sell the planes, which stopped operating in the early days of the war, poor maintenance crippled the jets. Six ancient but operational Hawker Hunters currently make up Lebanon's small airforce.

Israel and EU to open talks on new accord

TEL AVIV (AFP) - Israel and the European Union (EU) will soon launch negotiations on a new cooperation agreement with the aim of concluding a deal by the end of the year, the EU delegation in Tel Aviv said Monday. Manuel Marin, vice president of the European Commission, will visit Israel on Thursday to announce the talks, for which an exact date still has to be set, the delegation said in a statement. "The agreement is to reflect the different aspects of the economic relationship between the EU and Israel, reflecting Israel's status as a neighbouring country with which the EU wishes to maintain particularly close relations," the statement said. Israel wants greater access to European markets in the new agreement which is to replace a trade accord dating from 1975.

U.N. seeks extension of Iraq aid programme

BAGHDAD (AFP) - The United Nations is seeking one year's extension of its humanitarian aid programme in Iraq, an official said here Monday. Mohammad Zejjari, the coordinator of the U.N.'s humanitarian activities, told AFP that donor countries last month in Geneva had asked the United Nations to prepare an annual rather than a six-month aid programme beginning in April. The U.N. humanitarian programme. established after the Gulf war in February 1991, seeks to meet the most urgent needs of Iraqis. Iraq has been hard hir by sanctions imposed after its forces invaded Kuwait in August 1990. Mr. Zejjari said the world body had received \$200 million between March 1993 and March 1994, while the total cost of the aid programme for that same period was estimated at \$489 million. U.N. member states finance the programme through voluntary contributions.

Cairo (MS)

Amsterdam, New York (RJ

Rushdie deserves death TEHRAN (Agencies) fifth anniversary by several Islamic associations here and the Khordad-15 religious vowed on Tuesday that the foundation, which has put up a

Iran strengthens stand

Iran's Revolutionary Guards death sentence against British author Salman Rushdie would be carried out.

The guards, in a statement published in Iranian newspapers, said the "fatwa" issued against Mr. Rushdie by Iran's late spirtual guide Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini five years ago was "irrevocable and

would definitely be executed." The Indian-born writer was condemned to death for his novel "The Satanic Verses." which was judged to blasoheme Islam.

"Rushdie has insulted the sentiments and beliefs of more than a billion Muslims and should be punished according to the fatwa." the statement

The Iranian official news agency said Monday on the fifth anniversary of the ruling that Mr. Rushdie was an apostate and should die.

"The sentence has to be carried out irrespective of whether the apostate repents or not," it said. On Tuesday, Jomhuri-e-Isla-

mi newspaper denounced Western support for Rushdie and called on "Islamic forces to kill him."
"It is time to assert the will

of the Islamic World," said the daily, close to Islamic hardliners. "Islamic forces should eli-... minate Rushdie and strike a blow to the enemies of Islam."

The paper said that the verdict had been reaffirmed on its

In isolated settlement, real threat could be Israel

thing the peace process was

bringing was more soldiers. The work stopped several days ago, Mr. Wasana said, apparently because the Palestinian owner of the land got a court injunction against the

live here out of a sense that

pioneers," said Mr. Uzan,

takes care of eight toddlers in the day-care centre. She tries to block out the hostile surroundings and the lack of support from other Israelis. "It's a good life here. I don't

want to talk about the future. We believe we belong here and we will stay here," she said.

5 - 5 -JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 773111-19

04:57	
11:50	(Sunrise) Duh
14-56	'As
18:43	Maghrei
	CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Sweifleb, St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590. Church of the Azamacistion Tel. 657440. De la Saile Church-Tel. 661757 Terrasancia Church Tel: 622366

ciation Tci.

623541. Anglica: 628543. **Armeni** 77|331. St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751.

652526 Evangelical 824328. gregation Tel: 684195
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter
Day Saints Tel. 654932 Church of Nazarene Tcl.675691. The Evangelical Local Church in Am-

man Tel. 811295

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of

The Kingdom will be affected by a cold air front, that is why clouds will gradually build up with rain falling in various parts of the Kingdom, temper-atures dropping, and winds becoming southwesterly active. In Aqaba, partly

Min./Max. temp

the original plan signed last summer, which says that no settlements, including 16 in Gaza, would be dismantled during the five-year interim period of Palestinian autonomy.

Gaza City with its 300,000 Palestinian residents were clearly visible during a visit Monday. The settlement. astride the main southern entrance to the city. is about a five-minute drive from the city centre. Nobody from Netzarim ever goes. The settlement emerged as a key obstacle in delaying

implementation of the Israel-Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) autonomy accord well past the initial

The Palestinians wanted it dismantled. They found it inconceivable that for the sake of 27 families, an entire army company would control a main east-west artery in

In the talks, Israel stuck to

Mr. Peres and others now argue, however, that since Israel is no longer being pressured by the Palestinians. it may decide on its own to dismantle Netzarim and a similar enclave north of Gaza City called Dugit. Residents there have said they would exchange their homes for

similar property in Israel. Mr. Peres also cited Vered Yericho, near the soon-to-be autonomous West Bank town of Jericho, as a possible candidate for dismantling. With his remarks, Mr.

Peres signaled that the future of Netzarim and perhaps other settlements is negoti-

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 14, Aqaba 22, Humidity readings: Amman 45 per cent. Aqaba 27 per

USEFUL TELEPHONE

NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

ad Al Izzah ..

Dr. Mohammad Al Hilu 279773

831039

752971

819213

661912

637055

636730

623672

Radio Jordan

Water Authority

Electric Power

AMMAN: Dr. Mukbi

Dr. Nasser Ibrahim

Ferdows pharmacy Al Asema pharmac

Al Salam pharma

Yacoub pharmacy

Nairoujh pharmacy

Dr. Mohammad Al Nahawi

Netzarim, which means 'sapling" in Hebrew, is a cluster of about 30 red-roofed cottages and 50 mobile homes built on sand dunes over the past decade. Onethird of the cottages and all the mobile homes stand empty because the settlement has had trouble attracting residents to such an obvious

target. Despite the threat, they rejected an army request last month to move soldiers into 10 empty caravans to protect the site once autonomy be-

"I don't know any man who wants an army base next to his home." said tomato farmer Eliayahu Uzan, 33, belying the sign of one of the mobile homes that reads, "Netzarim has a heart for soldiers." About two weeks ago tthe

army began levelling the sand dunes outside Netzarim for a new base, prompting Palestinians to grumble that the only

Dr. Misbah Al Hijjawi 981217

Netzarim residents say they

God promised the land to the Jews. They scoff at the idea that they are just holding out to get the best deal possible from the government if they agree to leave. We came here as

standing in his greenhouse. Bracha Nissan, 28, mother of four and soon to give birth,

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

EMERGENCIES	RUSPITALS
Food Control Centre	AMMAN: Hussein Medical Centre
cicphone Information	Zarqa Govt, Hospital (09)983323
(directory assistance) 121	Zarqa National Hospital (09)900560
Overseas Calls 010230	Ibn Sina Hospital (09)986732 Al Hikmz Modern Hospital (09)990990
Central Amman Telephone Repairs	עליעליל און אווים וויים: אווים שלינים וויים: אווא אווים אווא אווים אווא אווים אווא אווים אווים אווים אווים אוו אווים אווא אווים אווא אווים
Repairs 623101	Princess Basaya Hospital (02)275555
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101	Greek Catholic Hospital (02)277275
	VIVA CANONE INSPIRA

. 815615

636381

RJ Flight Information 08-53200 Queen Afra Intl. Airport..... 08-53200 HOSPITALS

Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn 644281/6
Akilch Maternity. J. Amn 642441/2
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Malhas, J. Amman 636140
Palestine Shmeisani 664171/4
Shmeisani Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845845
Al-Muasher Hospital 667227/9
The Islamic, Abdali 666127/37
Al-Abli, Abdali 664164/6
Italian, Al-Muhaireen 777101/3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafich 775[1]/26
Army.§Marka
Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50
Amel Manakal
Amal Hospital 674155
ZARQA:
Zarqa Govt, Hospital (09)983323
Zarqa National Hospital (09)900560
Ibn Sina Hospital (09)986732
Al Hikma Modern Hospital (09)990990
DBD:
Princess Basma Hospital (02)275555
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272275
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272275 Iba Ai Nafees Hospital(02)247 (00)
AQABA:
Princess Haya Hospital(03)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information depart-ment at the Ouean Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it should always be verified. ÄRRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

3.60	Aqaba ((RJ)
B: 10	Dubai, Abu Dhabi ((RJ
8:30	Jeddah	(RJ
	Larnaca	
15:00	New York, Amsterdam	iru
	London	
	New York, Amsterdam	
6-50	lstanbul	in i
7:25	Brussels, Paris	DI
	Madrid, Geneva	
	Frankfurt, Vienna	
	Torogio, Montreal	
	Rome:	
2.10	Agaga	(2) L
M-45	Aquiga	
UND	Cairo	(KJ
Neb.	r Flights Company	21

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

Tunis, Casablanca (R. 19:30 20:20 New Delhi (R 20:30 ... Aden (RJ Other Flights (Terminal 2) Beirut, Paris (AF 86:25 ---... Rome (AZ **08:**15 10-25

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights

10:30 10:30

12:25

18:15

10:15

11:00

12:00

DEPARTURES

(Terminal 1)

HUAZ RAILWAY TRAIN

acet the d

ber qualifical pointies for a

Palestine

goisse

lasser Art last be had write "Or work for the

" the final

¹m, 381

the adve **Pplication**

Centre

Capparal Mand ca

of the Al

Perman 643251/2

MARKET PRICES

-	Apple	550V 650
	Banana	690
1	Banana Banana (Mukammar) Cabbage	270
5	Cabbase	77(/ 40
í	Carrot	
i	Cauliflower	200 ta
) } }	Carrot	200 / 200
	Circumboer (learn)	200 / 200
}	Cucumbers (large)	180 /. J.20
`	Eggplant	2007 204 120 120
)	Garlie	1/07 64
í	Garlic	9007800
í	Grape Fruit	2219 (24)
(Green beans	1200/ 900
)	Lemon	180 / 190
)	Marrow (large)	190 / 17f
)	INVESTIGATION LEGISTRA	200.720
	Olives (green)	790/500
	Orange	470/ I20
_	OnioH (BIV)	760 / 781
)	VIIION (STEEN)	210 / 140
)	י בטעכד נוומנו	20h / 78
)	Pepper (sweet)	240 / 260
)	Potato	340 / 200 100 tool
Ď	Radish	(20) 100 100 101:
ıš.		1207 64

Cairo (MS Jeddah (SU)
Abu Dhabi (GF)
Abu Dhabi, Karachi (PI) 270V.200 130 / 70 800/ 650





KING VISITS ARMY HQ - His Majesty King Hussein. the Supreme Commander of the Jordanian Armed Forces Tuesday visited the Armed Forces headquarters where he met with Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Abdul Hafez Mirai Al Kaabneh with whom he

discussed issues of interest to the Armed Forces. The King was accompanied by His Royal Highness Prince Hamzeh Iba Al Hussein and Royal Court Chief Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker

Convicted plotters appeal military court sentence

in's key oil pong AMMAN (AP) — Eight peog the 1980-88 m ple convicted by a military years. The Island inbunal of plotting to assassinould only serve the King Hussein are appealing vith a 2.000 tolle their verdicts in a civilian e 1.200 tranks, appeals court, a lawyer said ion. The facility Tecsday. ion. The facility

iran

mar it said a smar

vehicles also were

hen the operation

rs Iran's Sistan

nder tight setum Zahedan, Feb i

an's oil capital h

est refinery. The

ied Mirages

agreed Mondayn

e the early days of

tails in a statement

kistan had showed.

evernment has sill.

g the worth of the

nce in the 1946.

years whether n

erating in the early! pled the jets. Sa'

surrently make up .

pean Union (EU)

eration agreement.

d of the year, in:

anuel Marin, vix

eill visit Israel on

an exact date sill

statement. "The

s of the econome

reflecting Israeli

the EU wishes !!

statement **s**ad

arkets in the new

dating from 1975

programme

as is seeking our

camme in Iraq.an

ari, the coordina-

d AFP that donor

ne United Nations .

h aid programme

rian programme.

191, seeks to men

been hard ht h,

Cuwait in August

ad received \$200

4. while the total

iod was estimated

e the programme

ILWAY TRAIN

5-100 a.m. every Month 5-100 p.m. every Month 7-30 a.m. every Section

.... 7: SUR IN CYCLE SEED

et prices

rice in tils per lg

rnment of Prime:

ng jetty

is repaired by 0 Naem Madani, one of a the war, the Iraqi team of lawyers representing the eight men, said the appeal ndings in an effor economic lifeline was based on "the illegality of the verdict issued by the State Security Court," a juryless tribunal presided over by military

> Mr. Madani said the appeal was filed at the Court of Cassation on Monday. No date was fixed for hearing.

It marked the first time a verdict by the State Security

By a Jordan Times

Staff Reporter

AMMAN - An advertise-

ment inviting applications from qualified candidates to

work for the Palestine Eco-

nomic Council for Recon-

struction and Development

(PECRD) appeared in a

ordanian newspaper Tues-

Palestinian sources said the

advertisement was aimed at

serving two purposes: One to

open the door for qualified

Palestinians living in the di-

aspora to join the council,

which is in charge of recon-

structing the economy of the

occupied West Bank and

Gaza Strip, and the other to

meet the demands of donors

that qualifications rather than

political patronage be the

basis for appointment to the

Palestine Liberation Orga-

misation (PLO) Chairman

Yasser Arafat has indicated

that he had no problems in

hiring "Qualified people to

work for the conneil as long

The advertisements invited

applications from experts

the final decision rests with him." said an informed

Palestinian source.

council...

Court has been challenged in a civil court since Parliament passed a law last year overturning a statute that had made the military tribunal's verdicts fin-

Three of 10 defendants, two of them tried in absentia, were handed death sentences while the rest were given jail terms ranging from 15 years to life at hard labour.

Five were students from a military academy and another was a member of the Royal Escort Unit that follows the King around the clock. Three others, including the two at large, were traders and the fourth a mosque preacher.

Palestinian council invites...

qualified candidates to join

from various sectors of state

economy; directors of treas-

ury and budget, financial

ditor, tax directors, resear-

chers and statisticians and

The place of work was

given as Palestine. Appli-

cants were asked to send

their details to PECRD in

Tunis and were given a fax number at a hotal in occupied

Jerusalem, giving Feb. 25 as

the deadline for applications.

state Palestinian origin as a

prerequisite. The sources

said the door was open for all

nationalities, but preference

will be given to Palestinians.

such advertisements

appeared for nearly one

month in the occupied terri-

tories. The sources said they

did not know what the re-

Donor countries, which have pledged \$2.2 billion in

assistance to support Palesti-

nian self-rule envisaged in the Sept. 13 Israel-PLO accord,

are demanding that qualified

people be appointed to the

PECRD, which will channel

"In fact, it is a precondi-

sponse was.

the aid.

According to the sources,

The advertisement did not

computer experts, etc.

All the defendants were found guilty of conspiring to kill the King during a June 26 graduation ceremony at Mu'tah University, a military college in south Jordan, in a

beration Party. Hezb Al Tahrir, a puritan Islamic group, does not recognise any existing Arab or Muslim governments and advocates the establishment of Islamic caliphates in their place.

plot hatched by the illegal

Hezb-Al Tahrir, or Islamic Li-

Throughout the four-month trial, the defence maintained that confessions of defendants that formed the pillar of the prosecution case were ex-

tion before the World Bank

gives its green signal to re-

leasing assistance," said a di-

also suits many independent-

minded Palestinians who

have been arguing the PLO leadership should switch its

"revolution-oriented libera-

tion" strategy to "nation-

building priorities" and focus

on people's qualifications

rather than political loyalty.

Mr. Arafat has come under

severe criticism from PLO

figures as well as independent

Palestinians for what they see

as his refusal to make amends

in his approach and to

appoint people who may not

be proven loyalists but are

experts in their respective

During exchanges with a

group of reformists who also

criticised his style of single-

handed approach to negotia-

tions with Israel and autocra-

tic decision-making, Mr.

Arafat agreed that indepen-

dent Palestinians could be

appointed to the PECRD as

well as other institutions

which will play a key role in

the five-year interim auton-

retaining his position as the

overall head of the council

and a final say in all matters

related to its policy and func-

tions," said the Palestinian

Ahmad Qouriea, who led

the Palestinian side in the

secret negotiations in Oslo,

Norway, that led to the Sept.

13 accord, is the executive

Mr. Qouriez heads the

Palestinian side to economic

talks with Israel. The talks,

which focus on trade and

economic cooperation with

Israel, are scheduled to re-

sume in Paris on Feb. 21.

A 12-member committee

has been named to govern

the council, and critics sty

that most of its members are

Arafat loyalists with little ex-

perience in running a state

cconomy.

head of the council.

"However, he insisted on

omy period.

The World Bank condition

tracted under torture. Mr. Madani, the lawyer, asserted that the tribunal "did not follow the trial process as prescribed by law" and ignored a precedent where the same

court had ruled that Hezb Al

Tahrir did not espouse vio-

lence as a means to achieve its

objectives.

Additionally, he said, "the interrogation (of the accused) was illegal, and unacceptable means were used by the interrogators to secure confessions from the defendants."

Mr. Madani also argued that the defence was denied any chance to produce evidence that the accused were tortured.

13 killed. hundreds wounded in occupied territories, report

AMMAN (Petra) - The Department of Palestinian Affairs at the Foreign Ministry here has said that the Israeli authorities last month killed 13 Arabs and wounded hundreds of others in clashes that occurred in the West Bank and Gaza

department statement said victims of the Israeli attacks were 15 to 22 years of

Last month, Israeli courts passed sentences against 104 Palestinians who are now serving prison terms ranging from several months to a number of years, said the statement.

Since the signing of the Washington pact between the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Israel in September last year, the Israeli authorities have confiscated 46,000 dunums of Arab land in the West Bank to expand or build settlements, uprooted 5,500 fruit trees owned by Palestinians, evicted 46 families from their homes in the course of building Jewish settlements, and demolisehd 63

statement. Since the occupation of Arab lands in 1967, Israel has confiscated more than three million dunums of Arabowned land in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, and has never ceased to build settlements to encourage more Jews to settle on Arab lands, said

Arab houses in a bid to stem

the resistance, according to the

the statement. It noted that the West Bank now has 186 settlements while the Gaza Strip has 20.

Referring to conditions in Israeli jails, the report said that Palestinian detainees are continually facing torture and are suffering from contagious diseases due to poor facilities and malnutrition.

Turkmen: UNRWA keen to maintain present level of services in Jordan of 10 camps which have 201

AMMAN (Petra) — The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) hopes by July to transfer some of its departments from the agency's headquarters in Vienna to Amman, according to UNRWA Commissioner General Ilter Turk-

men Tuesday.

Speaking in an exclusive interview with the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Mr. Turkmen said that departmnets which have direct links with the services to the Palestine refugees in the Middle East will be transferred here to be closer to the fields of operations.

Mr. Turkmen, who is currently on a three-day visit to Jordan, was asked about prospects for increasing the salaries of UNRWA staff in Jordan. He said that the agency's employees get salaries equivalent to those paid to government employees, but the agency will give them araise. Earlier reports had quoted

as saying that in his talks with Mr. Turkmen in Vienna last week he learnt that the agency would pay salary increases to its staff retroactively, as of the start of 1994, and that it would purchase food and medicine for its functions from the Kingdom's markets.

Minister of State Adel Irsheid



Rier Turkmen

Referring to the reason for his current visit, which started Monday, Mr. Turkmen said that he wanted to follow up on UNRWA's activities which are handled by some 6,000 staff members in Jordan.

Amman also hosts a head office which supervises services to the Palestinian refugees in the Kingdom as well as in Syria, Lebanon, West Bank and Gaza Strip, added the agency commissioner general.

Services handled by the agency's staff in Jordan come second in size to those offered to the refugees in the Gaza Strip, where poverty and need are widespread, said Mr. Turk-

He pointed out that UN-RWA was keen on maintaining the level of its present services in Jordan despite its meagre financial sources this year. In Jordan, he said, UNRWA

offers services to the residents

schools, offering education to 152,000 students, in addition to two vocational training centres and 21 health centres in Am-

man and other governorates. UNRWA, which offers food aid to 29,000 refugoes, is seeking to build more schools for refugee children and those who have just returned from the Gulf countries to settle in Jordan, added the agency's commissioner general.

In all, UNRWA annually spends JD 61 million in refugee services in Jordan, he

Mr. Turkmen referred to services in Gaza, noting that the agency's assistance is offered to at least seven per cent of the population which

lives in abject poverty, UNRWA offers financial loans for small-size, incomegenerating projects to stem poverty in the strip, according to Mr. Turkmen.

The agency plans to carry out major development schemes in the Caza Strip during the transitional, autonomy rule in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, drawing on donations from the United States, Japan and the European Union, which gave pledges for \$80 million for that purpose.

Omani, Palestinian envoys laud Kingdom's efforts to reconcile Yemeni leaders

AMMAN (J.T.) - The ambassadors of Oman and Palestine to Jordan Tuesday voiced their backing of Jordan's efforts to bring about reconciliation between the Yemeni leaders for the sake of preserving Yemen's unity.

Mohammad Ben Sultan Al Busaid Oman's ambassador was quoted by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, as saying that unity in Yemen which was achieved in May 1990 is of concern to all Arabs and not the Yemenis alone.

The ambassador lauded the Kingdom's efforts to convene a meeting for the Yemeni lead-

ers President Ali Abdullah Saleh and his deputy Vice-President Ali Salem Al Beedh next Sunday in Amman to conclude an agreement that would seal the ongoing reconciliation

The Omani envoy said that Oman would pursue efforts to back Jordanian mediation efforts towards healing the rift between the Yemeni leaders. Jordan's efforts, he said, reflect the Kingdom's concern to

reestablish solidarity among Arab states, Echoing the Omani ambassador's, views, Palestine Presi-

dent Al Tayeb Abdul Rahim

said Tuesday that the Palestinian people are firmly behind Jordan's endeavours to end the Yemeni leaders' disputes and help them preserve unity. Mr. Abdul Rahim recalled

Yemen's continued support for the Palestinian cause at the international and Arab fora and its continued material and moral support for the Palestinian people.

The preservation of the Yemeni unity, he said, is bound to boost the moral of the Arab masses in general and the Palestinians in particular. The signing of a reconcilia-

tion and reform agreement was

originally scheduled to have taken place in Amman earlier this month, but was put off after last minute differences emerged between the dominant parties in the North and South of the country.

Mr. Saleh's General People's Congress and Mr. Beedh's Yemen Socialist Party ruled North and South Yemen respectively until they merged in May 1990, creating unified Yemen.

The expected peace accord provides for political, econoprovides for postucal, economic, military and administrative reforms aimed at ending the country's political crisis.

Japanese official ends visit after positive review of bilateral ties, peace process

Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A senior Japanese official left Amman Tuesday after talks on the Middle East peace process and bilateral relations and economic cooperation.

Shigero Endo, director of the First Middle East Department of the Japanese Ministry, also reviewed preparations for the next meeting of a multilateral working group on the environment. Japanese Ambassador Yuji Ikeda said.

Mr. Ikeda noted that Mr. Endo, who headed for Syria. had assumed his new post recently and was seeking to familiarise himself with the views of the various parties in the Middle East in the context of the 27-month-old Arab-Israeli peace process and the Japanese role in the negotia-

Japanese officials have said that their country is committed to building an atmosphere conducive to the peace talks while leaving it to the parties directly involved to reach agreements.

This would mean encouraging the parties to participate in ioint economic projects and shared regional infrastructure. Tourism is an area that Japan believes should be developed in Jordan as a means to facilitate "human contacts" that would contribute to a better atmosphere in the peace talks, officials from Tokyo say.

Tokyo chairs the environment working group of the multilateral phase of the peace process and is the deputy chairman of the working groups on economic cooperation and wa-

The next meeting of the environment group is scheduled to be held in Cairo next month. During that meeting, a project to set up a pollution monitoring and data-collection centre in Aqaba is expected to be given a final shape.

The project is expected to be shared among Jordan, Egypt, Israel and possibly Saudi Arabia, all sharing the Red Sea basin. The United States and the European Union, as well as Japan, are the key contributors to the project which environment officials describe as vital to ensuring that emergency mechanisms are in place to counter any pollution of the Red Sea.

Ambassador Ikeda described as constructive Mr. Endo's talks here with Minister of Planning Ziad Fariz and Information Minister Jawad Anani, one of Jordan's key strategists in the peace process.

The talks covered Jordan's economic situation and its efforts to reschedule its foreign debts and Japanese support for the various development proiects under way in the King-

Japan has consistently supported Jordan's economic develonment and has contributed significantly to the Kingdom's efforts to absorb the negative impact of the 1990-91 Gulf crisis. It extended \$750 million in loans and grants to Jordan during that period.

Jordan's debts to Japan now stand at JD 904 million. Part of it has been rescheduled and Japanese officials have promised to respond positively to Jordan's efforts for further rescheduling.

Mr. Ikeda said an \$80 million Japanese loan to Jordan's energy sector was in the pipeline. While a decision in principle has already been taken that the loan would be granted, specifics of the loan agreement have not been finalised, the ambassador told the Jordan Times.

"It is a matter of procedures" of the government," he said, correcting a report which said that Jordan and Japan were expected to sign the loan agreement next month. The loan will match a similar

loan granted by the World Bank to help develop the Kingdom's energy sector, particularly a plan to expand the Agaba thermal power plant at

a total cost of more than JD 300 million.

The Japanese pledge to match the World Bank loan was made during a donors conference in Paris early last year which produced pledges of \$390 million to help Jordan plug a gap in the balance of

The Japanese government indicated during Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majati's visit to Tokyo in November that it might increase its involvement in the project, perhaps up to \$150 million, according to

Also expected during this year is Japanese assistance of up to \$40 million over and above bilateral loans, according to the sources.

Jordan does not qualify for any large amount of outright grants from the Japanese gov-ernment since the Kingdom's per capita income is above the \$800 that Tokyo has set as the per capita income determina-tor for its direct fittancial assist-

Japan stands out among world donors in rejecting debt relief. Its policy has always advocated self-reliance through national efforts while not shirking enternal obliga-

Japanese officials have explained that a promise made by Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa, to Dr. Majali in December that Tokyo would help Jordan's communic efforts meant that Tokyo would make more funds available to the Kingdom rather than offer debt relief.

Jordan Times Tel. 667171

Edson — a new Waterman pen In keeping with Waterman's sophisticated ink feed system

technological superiority and innovative design, their newest top-of-the-range fountain pen, the Edson, offers consumers yet another landmark in the history of writing instruments.

In 1883 Lewis Edson Waterman invented the modern fountain pen. In the 1920s the Waterman ink cartridge was invented and Today, Waterman introduce a fountain pen with a highly colour.

worldwide reputation for that ensures a smooth and steady ink flow and helps prevent the pen leaking, even at high altitudes.

Futuristic in design, elliptical in shape, the barrel of the Edson is a deep and translucent midnight blue which has been developed by Waterman engineers with the introduction of an unique double wall structure. The special fabric of the external patented by the company. barrel allows for the great transparency and depth of

Hotels introduce business travellers package Inter-Continental hotels and room, welcome drink upon

Forum hotels international have introduced another package tailored for the group business travellers, the trade mission to the Middle East.

The trade mission package includes excellent benefits which will ease the smooth organisation of a trade mission or business delegation. The package offers a variety of benefits which include group transportation of the delegation to and from nearest international airport, complimentary day use of meeting

arrival, free stay for spouse and mission leader upgrade. Munther Twai, director of sales at Hotel Inter-Continental Jordan, says that this packages

is another step to ensure Inter-Continental's lead in providing quality services to the business traveller Mr. Twai adds that the package is complementary to other business services provided by Hotel Inter-Continental Jordan such as the Club Inter-Continental, the Six Continent's Cleb and the Global Business Option.

WHAT'S GOING ON

EXHIBITIONS Art exhibition by Jordanian artists at the Royal Cultural

Centre (7:00 p.m.-midnight). Art exhibition entitled "Selections from the Artistic Works of

Terra Sancta High School Students" at Amman National University (Salt Road).

Wood carving exhibition by artist Samer Ousama at the French Art and photo exhibition by several Arab artists at the Balqa

Art Gallery in Fuhels (Tel. 720902). Exhibition by Lebanese artist Hussein Madi at Darat Al Funun of the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation. Also showing the "permanent" exhibition of 54 Arab contemporary artists. (Tel.

Art exhibition by several Iraqi and Jordanian artists at Orfali Art Gallery (Tel. 826932).

BOOK EXHIBITIONS

Book exhibition at the University of Jordan. Book exhibition at the Royal Cultural Centre (7:00-midnight).

DRAMAS

Drama in Arabic entitled "Flee From Death" at the Royal

Theatrical performances for children at the Royal Cultural good Centre at 8:00 p.m.

The Film entitled "The Land Where the Blues Began" at the American Center at 2:30 p.m. (60 minutes).

BBME honours businesses

Derek Kelly, area manager of the British Bank of the Middle East in Jordan hosted a cocktail reception at the Inter-Continental Hotel on Feb. 10, 1994 to honour local businesses that have a MasterCard relationship with the

bank's Card Centre. One hundred and fifty guests attended, among them

general manager of all top hotels, restaurants shops, travel and car rental agencies as well as Royal Jordanian Airlines. Local senior executives of the bank were present, as was Gerard Monteiro, manager personal banking for the BBME in the United Arab Emirates.

Jordan Times

1973 Architect (1975) بعز يوميه عربية سياسية سيكلة تصدر مالاجهارزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية .

Chairman of the Board of Directors: MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Director General: MOHAMMAD AMAD Editor-in-Chief:

GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Editorial and advertising offices: Jordan Press Foundation, University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan. Telephones: 667171/6. 670141-4

Telephones: 667171/6, 670141-4
Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO
Facsimile: 696183

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

Ultimatum may work

WITH FIVE days left to go before the end of NATO's ultimatum to Serbian forces to pull out their big guns from the vicinity of Sarajevo, all signals from the area indicate that the Serbs are this time beginning to heed the international threats.

U.S. President Bill Clinton appeared to be upbeat Monday about the success of NATO's diplomacy where the U.N. has failed over the past two years. So far the Serbs have moved 28 out of 500 heavy guns that have circled the capital city and rained death and destruction on it during the past years. Yet President Clinton has also said there is still the "larger issue of whether the international community can lead towards a reasonable peace agreement quickly after establishing a safe zone around Sarajevo.

This time around there is a real prospect for advancing the peace talks between the three warring factions. Once the Serbs received the loud and clear signal that NATO would take immediate and forceful action to stop the carnage in Bosnia, their leaders decided to talk. In retrospect, the failure of all past efforts to end the armed conflict in former Yugoslavia was due to the ambivalent position of the permanent members of the U.N. Security Council. Without a clear-cut political will to end the cycle of violence in the war torn country, the Serbs had no incentive to strike a reasonable deal and end their waves of war crimes.

Against this backdrop, the bombing of Sarajevo last week that took the lives of nearly 70 men, women and children, was a turning point in the Bosnian conflict. It is unfortunate that nations begin to move and take effective measures against aggressors only after a tragedy occurs. The families of the people who lost their lives on that black Saturday may draw some comfort when they realise that NATO leaders, spearheaded by President Clinton, and French President Francois Mitterrand, have decided to act in the face of continued bloodletting in Bosnia.

There is little doubt that the climate for peace in that country has now made a turn around. Russia, the traditional ally of the Serbs, has reluctantly but effectively supported the decision to end the ongoing massacres and move towards a just settlement of the disputes between the Bosnians, Croats and Serbs. Russian Ambassador to the U.N. Yuli Vorontsov had this to say in the wake of the latest developments: "It is obviously extremely important for the Security Council to back up its demands with a proper resolution," for a ceasefire in Sarajevo and the withdrawal of heavy weapons from the zone. With Moscow edging closer to NATO's stance on the Bosnian situation, the stage is set for a remarkable progress in the peace talks on the future of the country. Hopefully NATO and the U.N. will stick to their guns this time in order to give peace in that troubled region of the world a real chance.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL DUSTOUR daily Tuesday commented on the resumption of the Arab-Israeli peace negotiations in Washington, describing the talks as a matter of routine work that does not yield any fruitful result. Such meetings no longer produce magic effect on the Arab masses as the majority of Arabs believe that the talks are mainly aimed to keep the peace process alive working, while the real efforts are being made behind the scenes said, the daily. If anything, the Israelis turned out to be the main beneficiary of the peace process which, the paper said, has opened all the doors wide for its leaders to achieve further gains at the expense of the Arabs Nation. In such a climate, and due to little care given by Washington as to whether the talks would achieve any result, the Israelis feel they are not obliged to give any concessions to the Arab and so they continue to hold on to their intransigent position, added the paper. The paper said that there is no point of continuing the Washington talks, which are not bound to achieve any positive results as long as the Israelis remain adamant in their position and determined to deny the Arabs their legitimate rights. It calle 1 on the Arab parties to the negotiations to re-examine the situation and refrain from participating in further meetings until the United States has assumed its role as an active partner in the

talks and in helping to achieve genuine peace.

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'l daily discussed the situation in Iraq three years after the allied forces bombed the Al Amirieh shelter, killing hundreds of innocent civilians. It was a massacre that shamed the whole world community, and its anniversary reminds hat we stood witness to the atrocity and are not helping to end

that we stood witness to the atrocity and are not helping to end the securiors of the Iraqi people, said Tareq Masarweh. It is we, the Arabs continue to impose sanctions on the Iraqis, further causing them and sufferings, said the writer.

By Avi Sillaim

versity. The article is rep-

rinted from the college's

The writer is a professor of modern Middle Eastern history at S.T. Anthony's College at Oxford Uni-

THE AGREEMENT signed by Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in Washington on Sept. 13, fully merited the overworked epithet 'historic' because it was the first time that both sides, simultaneously, accepted the principle of partition as the basis for the settlement of their conflict. The logic of partition is compelling. Since there are two peoples and only one land, partition of the land is the only fair and sensible solution. Partition was first proposed by the Peel Commission in 1937 and again by the U.N. in 1947 and turned down by the Palestinians both times. By the time the Palestinian National Council (PNC) endorsed the principle of partition and a two-state solution in 1988, Israel, under a Likud government, rejected the idea. That both sides now accept the

idea of partition would seem to

support Abba Eban's observa-

tion that people are capable of

acting rationally when they have exhausted all the other alternatives.

To be sure, the Declaration of Principles (DOP) for limited self-rule in Gaza and Jericho for an interim period of five years falls a long way short of the demand for an independent Palestinian state. But big things sometimes have modest beginnings. State-building is a slow and gradual process and the most difficult part of it is the beginning. The history of Zionism is highly instructive in

The Israel-PLO accord and its critics



this respect. Early Zionist leaders, unlike their Palestinian counterparts, were accomplished masters of the art of political gradualism. When the Peel Commission proposed a tiny Jewish state in 1937. Chaim Weizmann, the uncle of Israel's current president, thought that "the Jews would be fools not to accept it even if it is the size of a table-cloth." Although the Gaza-Jericho offer is about the size of a table-cloth, the Palestinians would do well to heed Weizmann's advice.

Of Jericho Chaim Weizmann said: "It was there that walls crumbled before the sound of trumpets. I have never heard of walls being built in this way." Although the reference harked back to the biblical story about Joshua's first major victory in the "Promised Land," it has especial resonance today. Once again, the Palestinians would be well advised to emulate the example of their opponents.

In their quest for statehood, the Zionists employed two

strategics: political Zionism and practical Zionism. The former was directed at cultivating international support for the idea of a Jewish state, the latter at building up on the ground the infrastructure of the state. Neither strategy would have worked on its own; together they paved the way to statehood in 1948. PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat has won a major diplomatic victory, but he and his colleagues now face the much more daunting challenge of building up the institu-

tions of a state from the ground up in the occupied territories. Palestinians who accuse Mr. Arafat of a sell-out should ask themselves why it is that Yitzhak Rabin's domestic opponents level precisely the same charge against him. If Mr. Rabin has conceded nothing of substance to the Palestinians, why are some Israelis up in arms against him? The answer is quite simple. Members of the Likud and of the nationalistic parties further to the right see the deal as the beginning of ideology holds that the "Land of Israel," including the West Bank, belongs to the people of Israel. All of it. And for ever. They consider, rightly in my opinion, the tiny enclave in Jericho as the thin end of the wedge of a Palestinian state.

Vehement opposition to the deal on the part of Palestinian hardliners and Islamic militants was only to be expected. Some people can never be satisfied. More worrying is the growing opposition to the deal from moderates like Farouk Kaddoumi, the PLO "foreign minister," and prominent in-tellectuals like Professor Edward Said. It has to be conceded that the critics have some cause for concern since the deal is not a full-blown agreement but largely an agenda for future negotiations. Yet some of the specific arguments put forward against the deal are rather one-sided.

One agreement for saying "no" to Mr. Rabin's offer is that it amounts to less than the autonomy plan proposed by

very strong and a very weak partner necessarily involve concessions hidden in embarrassment by the latter." But Israel's strength and Palestinian weakness are facts of life that have to be faced. Under these conditions the kind of agreement that Edward Said would like to see is simply unattainable. It is Gaklava in the sky. Holding out for all or nothing has left the Palestinians with nothing. Rejecting compromise proposals has nor served the Palestinian cause in the past and it is unlikely to do

A third objection to the Rabin-Arafat deal is that it leaves unresolved vital questions such as the Palestinian right of return, the eventual borders of the Palestinian entity, the future of the Jewish settlements on the West Bank and Gaza and the status of Jerusalem. But the deal is silent on all these highly sensitive issues for good reason: Had they been tackled, there would have been no deal. The right way forward is surely to concentrate on areas of agreement rather than disagreement and to leave the most difficult problems to the end. Such an approach involves a clear element of risk but nothing ventured, nothing gained.

the start and the start agreed

bridge bridge

Between th

adMr. Badra

PARTE COLUMN

yzze-relate

the election

Ber-in-lay

it focus of

abete, with

According

Senate had b

Mr. Rifai for

buspec

looday that formed her is. Maaytah

Ms. Youse

Mr. Shaaba

moocent of

the assass

Errogators Schopping Stem Beka

e of the

King Huss Mr. Maz

ceived the

eaders

≥known ba

Stonb M

Mater:

In its profination in the Goldan

por and "a land of the land of

Finally, the Gaza-jericho plan is denounced because it carries no promise, let alone a guarantee, of a Palestinian state at the end of the five-year period of interim self-rule. But an Israeli agreement today to an independent Palestinian state is utterly beyond the bounds of the possible. The Israelis did not receive their state on a silver platter, nor will the Palestinians. Their best hope is that success in implementing self-rule in Gaza and Jericho will generate the momentum which will eventually carry them to full independence and statehood. There are no short-cuts.

The dangers of 'greater Jerusalem'

By Colleen Siegel Reuter

BEIT JALAH, West Bank — Israeli builders are blasting their way through hills of the occupied West Bank. The Jewish state is creating "greater" jerusalem for its people while it tries to sort out a peace deal with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin promises to swap occupied land for peace. But he says Israel will never surrender an inch of Jerusalem, the world's most fought over city. For what he calls security reasons, he insists on keeping a swathe of land around it: Greater Jerusalem.

Palestinians want the West Bank, Arab East Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip, all captured by Israel in the 1967 war, for a future independent state.

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, chief engineer of the peace deal, has questioned the wisdom of maintaining certain Jewish settlements in the occupied territories when Palestinian self-rule, which has been delayed by disputes over security, begins.

Other cabinet ministers are also talking openly about what was unthinkable only a few months ago: uprooting settlements in Gaza. The most vociferous opponents of Mr. Rabin's peace efforts are among Israel's 120,000 settlers. Rita Doqmaq says her Arab town of Beit Jalah, on a hilltop

south of Jerusalem, shakes as a traffic tunnel is bored under it aimed at a cluster of Jewish settlements called Gush

Etzion.
"It's like bombs," she complains.

Israel is developing more than 100 square km of occupied land even as it negotiates a first-phase pullout in the Gaza Strip and West Bank town of Jericho.

East Jerusalem is home to 150,000 Jewish settlers. Almost half the more than 100,000 Jewish settlers elsewhere in the West Bank already live in "Greater Jerusalem."

Mr. Rabin's government wants more before negotiations begin on the final status of the occupied territories two years now.

"In East and greater Jeru-

salem, we are building about

15,000 housing units." said

Housing Ministry Spokesman

This is on top of some 13,500

units begun under the previous

government which Mr. Rabin

allowed to be completed in

Jerusalem, the West Bank, the

Amit Dobkin.

Mr. Dobkin denies there is a contradiction.

"The government of Israel is first obligated to the peace process. There are no secrets... and there is no megalomaniac building. There is one central important thing, and that is strengthening Jerusalem, Mr. Dobkin said.

Palestinian leaders such as Jerusalem's Faisal Al Husseini call the construction an obstacle to peace. They consider East Jerusalem as capital of a future state.

Mr. Dobkin said the government regarded Maale Adumim, the biggest Jewish settlement six km to the east of the city, and Givat Zeev, the same distance to the north, as part of "greater Jerusalem"

"greater Jerusalem." He said Gush Etzion. — 12

km to the south and separated

from the city by the Arab town

of Bethlehem, - had never

been explicitly mentioned as

official said: "There is a special

The settlement was estab-

lished in 1943. It fell during the

affection for Gush Etzion."

But another government

part of "greater Jerusalem."

established it immediately after the 1967 war.

The multi-million dollar

road under Beit Jalah will connect it to Jerusalem. Joseph Alpher, head of Israel's Jaffee Centre for Strategic Studies, said it made strategic sense to annex Gush

Etzion, Givat Zeev and Maale Adumim in a final peace deal. The West Bank bulges into Israel above and below Jerusalem making a corridor from the coast to the city holy to Jews, Muslims and Christians. Annexation would widen the

In addition, the areas of Givat Zeev and Gush Etzion command sweeping views westward to the sea. Maale Adumim dominates a ridge overlooking Jordan to the east.

Mr. Alpher added annexation would also ease the "settlements issue by including within Israel's boundaries on a very small portion of land a very large proportion of settlers." Evacuation and compensation problems would be reduced by half, he said.

Borders could undulate to leave out most of about 100,000 Palestinians living around the large Jewish enclaves.

But Solomon Nour, a Beit Jalah school principal, won-dered what sort of peace allowed Israelis to tunnel under his town with impunity. "They don't ask," he said. "They just do it. Nothing has changed."

LETTERS

The implications of violence

To the Editor:

Menachem Begin after he con-

cluded the Camp David

accords with President Anwar

Sadat of Egypt in 1978. But

Mr. Begin's autonomy plan ap-

plied only to people, not to

territory. His government, like

that of Yitzhak Shamir, was

staunchly opposed to trading

land for peace on the West

Bank. By contrast, the Labour

Party, of which Yitzhak Rabin

is the leader, has been commit-

ted to territorial compromise

over the West Bank ever since

1967. Its approach to the West

Bank is governed by considera-

tions of security rather than of

ideology. Provided Israel's

security is not threatened. Mr.

Rabin's government can be ex-

pected to extend the geog-

raphical scope and powers of

the new Palestinian authority.

the deal is that it was made

between the strong and the

weak and is therefore bound to

serve the interests of the

strong. As Edward Said put it

in The Guardian on Sept. 9:

"All secret deals between a

A second argument against

READING THE news about the male parliamentarian who attempted to hit our female representative in Parliament enraged me not because it was a clear act of violence, but because it brought to my mind vivid memories of women telling me about acts of violence committed by males against them; reports by scholars on wife battering; and memories of my lawyer friends telling me about the difficulties encountered by women in prosecuting battering cases (and other sorts of violence against women).

In our society, violence against women occurs with shocking frequency. In the broadest sense, violence against women is any violation of a women's personhood, mental or physical integrity or freedom of movement. It includes all the ways society objectifies and oppresses women. Every form of violence threatens women with physical or psychological violation and limits our ability to make choices about our lives. Although factual information is hard to obtain, every day we see real and imagined violence against women in the news (i.e. honour killing), on television, in movies, etc., and in many cases it is presented as a fact of life. In the catalogue of abuse against women, battering is the most comon and least reported crime. Battering happens to women of every age, profession and class.

Secondly, what enrages us all as advocates of democratisation about the incident in Parliament, is the effort to hamper the freedom of speech and expression; the effort to uphold restrictive provisions which we, as citizens, sought to revoke; and the effort to incite ethnic and sectarian division in a society which has been immune to schisms. What is more, is that these encroachments against freedom of expression came not from an ordinary person, but from someone we chose as our representative. A member of Parliament who by definition should embody the ideals of respect for human rights, for the freedom of expression and for civil liberties in general.

Therefore, we should reject the efforts being made to make Ms. Faissal "bury her grievance." I am not inciting trouble here, but merely noting that not only Ms. Faissal, but many others have had similar experiences of being silenced, challenged, patronised or told that their problems are insignificant. In the face of such inexcusable treatment, we must remember that no human being deserves to be verbally abused, discriminated against, silenced or beaten, especially in parliament, the embodiment of all freedoms.

Many years ago, most forms of abuse of freedom were hidden under a cloak of silence or tacit acceptance. We applaud Ms. Faissal for saying no to violence, for saying no to autocratic methods and for fighting back. The threat of violence continues to keep us from stepping out from behind traditional roles and boundaries. It literally "keeps us in our place."

Finally, what enrages me more in the case of Ms. Faissal is the discourse in our society about the incident. Some say that it is the strong character of the female deputy which led to such treatment against her, that she "brought it on to herself in some way." We as free thinkers should not feel guilty about violence done to us because society tells us that we caused it—a clear case of "blaming the victim."

Feeling guilty discourages us from fighting back. And in the case of Ms. Faissal, women are not guilty for violence committed by men on their body, mind and spirit. This violence happens because of men's greater power and their misuse of that power. No reason should justify male violence or violence by anybody. The fact that this is a single incident is not the point. The fact that so many men feel entitled to express their frustration or anger by being violent to so many women illustrates the power men, as a group, hold over women as a group. In this distorted way, even the most powerless men benefit from sexism.

Taking Ms. Faissal's case to the court may seem small, but it is a big step for us. With a long history of suppression of freedoms (in the broadest sense), advocates of democratisation should take action as a group. In raising this issue and others (such as the citizenship law, freedom of speech, liberalisation in all spheres), we encourage our female deputy to speak up.

Abla Amawi, Ph.D.

Russia, sidelined on Bosnia, anxious to avoid further isolation

What sort of peace allowed Israel to

tunnel under (Beit Jalah) with impunity

Palestinian school principal.

By Christopher Boian Agence France Presse

MOSCOW — Russia. stung by its failure to block NATO's threat to use force against Bosnian Serbs. now faces a crucial policy challenge of averting a serious rift with the West without seeming to buckle under fear of international isolation.

While Moscow remains officially opposed to the NATO move, analysts and diplomats say Russian policymakers are far more concerned about being cut out of the debate entirely and are not prepared for a diplomatic clash with the West over Bosnia.

"The Russians have not completely stopped their line" opposing the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) ultimatum calling on Bosnia's Serbs to withdraw heavy weapons from around Sarajevo by Feb. 21 or face air strikes. a western diplomat said Satur-

"They are impatient, very worried, but not in confrontation." said the diplomat, speaking on condition he not

be named. "Their main worry is of being sidelined."

That view seemed to gain credence Saturday as Russia submitted to four western countries at the United Nations in New York a draft resolution that virtually mirrors the NATO decision and which the four countries described as redundant.

But despite that move there were clear signs that Russia. while tempering its opposition to the threat of NATO air strikes in Bosnia. was not prepared to endorse fully the Atlantic alliance's plans and would probably seek a middle ground.

In a telephone conversation with U.S. President Bill Clinton on Friday. Russian President Boris Yeltsin reiterated Moscow's view that only the United Nations — not NATO — should be empowered to make decisions on "all issues" regarding the crisis in Bosnia.

A U.N. Security Council discussion of the issue had been scheduled for Friday but was postponed until Monday due to heavy snow in New York.

sian diplomacy is the need to find a workable balance between standing up for the geopolitical interests Moscow claims to have in the Balkans while not alienating western states crucial to Russia's economic recovery.

Russia's dismay at being effectively excluded from the latest moves on Bosnia were summarised by First Deputy Foreign Minister Anatoly Adamishin in an interview published Saturday by the Italian daily Corriere Della Sera.

"Russia exists and should not be treated like this!" Mr. Adamishin said.

For the past 18 months, diplomats led by Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev have been reluctant to single out any one party to the conflict in Bosnia as a target for military action and have stressed Russia's close historical ties to Serbs.

They have also warned that anti-western sentiment, already on the rise in Russia, would be fanned by Russian ultranationalists who would use any agreement by Moscow

to join in actions against Bosnian Serbs to argue the government was beholden to western interests.

Most analysts however agree that while the voice of extreme nationalists in Russia, led by Vladimir Zhirinovsky, cannot be discounted, it is not a voice that has a direct or major impact on Moscow's foreign policy and is rapidly losing its "shock value" in western capitals.

"The tionalist dimension is not crucin't to the policy" on Bosnia, the valuer diplomat said. "People in the street are not impassioned by the debate on the crisis."

On Friday the Lower House of the Russian Parliament rejected a proposal from a member of Zhirinovsky's Liberal Democratic Party to send a fact-finding team to Bosnia.

The rejection was viewed by some observers as an indication of Moscow's unwillingness to take a confrontational stand against the West amid current developments surrounding the crisis in Bosnia.

Eeatures Features

the latter

are facts of b

and of the five-ver

erim self-rule Bu

greement today t

ident Palesting

terly beyond te

the possible Tk!

not receive the

silver platter ne

stinians. Their be

at success in m

self-rule in Gaz

them to full inde

10 short-cuts.

ons

amentarian who

of violence, but

ories of women

ov males agains

nd memones of

ties encountered

d other sons of

is with shocking

gainst women 8

ntal or physical

les all the ways

Every form of

a psychologica

about our live.

n, every day we

in the news (i.e.

alogue of abuse

ıd least reported

age, profession

of democratisa-

ffort to hamper

effort to uphold

aught to revoke.

ision in a society

ore, is that these

; came not from

e chose as our

to by definition

n rights, for the

, in general .

g made to make

inciting trouble

aissal, but many

z silenced, chal-

ns are insignifi-

ment. we must

to be verbally

en, especially "

freedom wer

acceptance. We

for saving note

The threat of

out from behind

keeps us in our

of Ms. Faissal 8

t. Some say that

which led to such

on to herself #

feel guilty about

I we caused it

pack. And in the

ty for violence

and spirit. This

power and their

fy male violence

feel entitled 10

plent to so many

ir female depuly

and in man

in Parliament

cessarily intol hidden in emb lordan, PLO make headway ngth and Paky

(Continued from page 1)

tions the Linds the higher committee that Edward drains the higher committee to see is the Deputy Prime Minister

to see is sand Seed Al Tal.

It is Gaklars in this meeting iding one the change in this meeting iding out for all that we were able to merge that the objectives, practicleft the pakes the primary objectives, practicnothing. Rejecting a solutions and the important proposals have a seeing issues which require proposals has he pressing issues which require alestinian cause; manediate answers," Mr. abed Rabbo said.

Anami said Tuesday's

Dr. Anani said Tuesday's or deal is that a meeting concentrated on findas the palescing, it coordination which would have clear agendas, specific te Palestine committees with set meeting

ie Palestinian en on the West has dinate our position, especially and the west has dinate our positions and peace and the status a that the negotiations and peace But the deal k with begun to change from a these highly sens gality and a conviction to for second for good rease practical application on the een tackled the ground which will touch the been no deal in interests of both the Palestion areas are less and Jordanians," Dr. on areas of age. Anam told reporters. than disagreemen

the most diffice issues" were also discussed inthe end. Such cluding the issue of trade. volves a clear et security and borders.

ng gained "We agreed to maittee en-"We agreed to mobilise the the Gaza-jerick musted with regulating the ounced because movement of people across the romise, let alone; borders and to ensure that of a Palesting opening bridges will be in the interest of the people and their movement towards their home rather than a process of emptying the land of its people," Dr. Anani said. Dr. Anani also said that

there was agreement to activate two committees to discuss the status of Jerusalem and refugees "so that we can agree on the framework to deal with these sensitive subjects."

"For the Palestinian side, negotiations over these two issues has been relegated to the final-status talks, but we can coordinate our positions now within the negotiations process in a manner which would guarantee the Palestinian and Arab people their rights," Dr. Anani added.

Mr. Abed Rabbo said that discussions would also consider forming a Jordanian-Palestinian-Egyptian-Israeli committee to discuss the displaced Palestinians of 1967 which is a fundamental problem" and other issues related to the interim period of self-

Tuesday's discussions, Mr. Abed Rabbo said, also dealt with the subject of banks and monetary and trade issues which are directly connected to the economic coordination.

Discussion of these issues will help us to move forward in negotiations with coordinated positions and implement the agreed upon points immediately on the ground," Mr. Abed Rabbo said.

The delegations met again Tuesday evening and discussions were continuing late into

Rifai secures seat; Badran quits

how the country should be will generate the new and on foreign policy,' which will ever one of the sources said. Between them, Mr. Rifai and statehood, and Mr. Badran alternated as head-of governments in the Kingdom for 18 years (1973-

There has to be more adjustability to the presence of political rivals if the work of the Senate is to continue, sid one senator, levelling

micism at Mr. Badran. He added that the Senate's mae had been taken up by the details of appointments to Senate committees and other Senate-related positions at the expense of regular work.

The election of Mr. Rifai to replace Mr. Talhouni, his father-in-law, had become the focus of a parliamentary debate, with some members saying that it would further strengthen his chances to complete his political com-

According to senators and well-informed sources, the Senate had been divided into two camps on the selection of Mr. Rifai for the job: One in

support of Mr. Rifai and the other which supported the

choice of either Ahmad

Obeidat or former Deputy

Prime Minister and Minister

of the Interior Salem Mas-The sources maintained that Mr. Rifai enjoyed a clear majority support over Mr. Obeidat and Mr. Massadeh. His supporters, in fact, had asked that the choice of candidate be put to vote in Tuesday's session because they felt sure of the result.

However, Senate tradition has been that decisions similar to this one are made in the corridors and not put to a vote in a Senate session.

According to the Senate sources, there were preliminary meetings among senators to reach a consensus for a Talhouni successor in the influential council and that Mr. Rifai was able to win support from neutral members in his presentation of arguments for wanting the post.

"He manoeuvres well and was able to gain the support of those who were neutral among the senators," said a senator who asked for anony-

Suspects admit complicity

(Continued from page 1) Monday that Mr. Shaaban had morned her of his plans to kill

Mr. Maaytah. Ms. Yousef is being held in

protective custody. Mr. Shaaban has claimed be is innocent of any involvement in the assassination. He told interrogators Monday that he was shopping for a car in the eastern Bekaa Valley at the time of the shooting.

King Hussein said Sunday that Mr. Maaytah's killers had ceived their orders from heir leaders based in an Arab country he did not name. He only described the country as the known base of the leader of the group which executed the

Abu Nidal is believed to be hiding in Libya, and sources, who also demanded anonymity, said the King was referring to that country.

Libya has denied involve-

Abu Nidal, whose real name is Sabri Al Banna, split from the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in 1973. He has since topped the wanted lists in a number of Arab countries as well as Europe and the United States for attacks that have left scores of civilians and diplomats dead.

Abu Nidal is held responsible for twin attacks on Rome and Vienna airports on Dec. 27, 1985, which killed 17 civilians and wounded scores

Bilaterals resume with status quo

(Continued from page 1)

In its public statements, Syria has continued to demand that Israel fully withdraw from the Golan Heights seized in 1967 and "annexed" in 1981. Itrael, on the other hand, has fefused without security therautees from Syria. Privately, U.S. officials say

they have done all they can to help Syria agree to normalised relations with Israel, especially pointing to the Geneva summit between President Bill Clinton and Syrian leader Hafez Al

single incident 15 But the recent death of Mr. Assad's son and heir, Basel, has created additional difficulties for the Syrian leader. State Department officials

oup, hold over even the most | say privately that Secretary of eem small. ^{bul il} State Warren Christopher is suppression of planning to return to the Middle East in late March to sound of democratisa, g this issue and out the Syrian government on iom of speech

its intentions. Damascus Radio accused Israel Tuesday of "blackmail-

in the negotiations. "Washington bilateral talks resume today amid growing Israeli manoeuvre to turn around the basis of a just and comprehensive peace."

Damascus Radio said in a com-

It noted that Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin wants to raise the level of Syrian-Israel contacts and has also proposed a referendum to let Israeli citizens decide whether to give up the Golan to Syria.

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said over the weekend that the Washington talks between Syrian and Israeli negotiators should be expanded with higher level contacts, preferably a summit between Mr. Assad and Mr. Rabin.

Damascus radio suggested such a summit would necessitate secret preparatory contacts like those between Israel and the PLO prior to their

Sept. 13 accord. The policy of secret negotiations is futile and an Israeli means of blackmailing," the radio said, adding that the Palestinians have so far only reaped "bitter fruits and disappointment."

Nature's spectacular fight back

SYDNEY - People are packing tours here to see nature fight back in Australia's oldest national park, reduced to a charred landscape by devastating bush fires five weeks ago.

Fires, believed by officials to be deliberately started, swept through 95 per cent of the 15,000 hectare (37,000 acre) Royal National Park as bush fires elsewhere killed four people, fnjured hundreds and destroyed 3(k) homes. The New South Wales author-

ities said the fires were the worst for two centuries. But the Australian bush has been surviving ordeal by fire for

"Its a case of adapt or die." said park ranger Susan Aston as she shepherded two dozen visitors on a regeneration tour. Nature's fight back is spectacular. In many places delicate green ferns and grass-trees rise knee high above the ground's black crust, and the new brown-tipped shoots of the dwarf apple are every-

"The grass-trees started growing back in two days," said Ms. Aston. The park's main trees, scribbly gums and sydney red gums.

leafless, blackened and dead-

shedding charred bark revealing new trunks in shades of ochre and burnt sienna.

Leaves are regrowing on limbs from epicormic buds which normally lie dormant under the bark.

"These buds are part of the trees' defence mechanism against fire. When 80 per cent of the campy is burned they produce a feather-duster type of growth which keeps the tree alive. We expect to lose only 10 per cent of the trees from the blaze." Ms. Aston explains to the visitors.

They have been packing \$7 tours which the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) started because so many people wanted to see the burnedout park where walking trails have been closed indefinitely. "We thought the tour would

last only two weeks but we have been running them for a month now and they are al-ways booked out," Ms. Aston The fire was terrible, she said, but it has produced an

Botanists say this growth

ideal environment for new

Fifty-five per cent of the

children here have only one

parent and 17 per cent of those

are teenage mothers and half

of the children live in poverty.

A child here has a higher prob-

ability of dying before age 15

than in any of the 50 states.

kind of hyper-vigilance. Even

small acts, often unintentional,

that are interpreted as disre-

spectful can create violent

reactions, Mr. Poussaint said.

don't even look at... because

Tanika Seaborn, 17, of the

School Without Walls, said of

the 33 children she attended

sixth grade with in Washington

schools, only three are still

alive. "Every one of them died

Many of those were killed

four years ago at a party, she

said, when a boy who was

rejected by a girl returned with

a gun and picked off party-

Shani Jones, 15, of Ben-

iamin Banneker High School.

said most youths her age believe they will not live past 25

and that the key to safety is

knowing which students to

avoid and what boundaries not

"But if you're beefing with

somebody you might carry a

gun or a knife for protection.

to make sure you don't get

Some schools in Oakland.

California, New York City and

Detroit have banned expensive

clothing and jewlery, believing

that fights are caused by dis-

parities in income among stu-

dents or symbols of gang affi-

Roaming gangs around Los Angeles' freeways have

assaulted teenagers wearing op-

posing gang colours, such as blue for The Crips and the red

To stop students from car-

rying weapons, many school

systems across the country.

especially in urban areas, have

installed metal detectors and

instituted random student sear-

children." said George Greer.

a researcher with Kids Count

in Washington, "that they are

safer in school than they are in

"We have to assure these

that becomes a provocation,

Mr. Poussaint said.

from a bullet,"

goers.

to cross.

hurt," she said.

for The Bloods.

"There are certain kids you

Those conditions breed frus-

An Australian man watches as a firestorm approaches his property in Sydney. The burnt woods are now attracting hundreds of visitors (AFP photo)

Shrubs in the extensive heathland areas were killed in the blaze but most have seeds protected by hard pods.

"The fire causes a chemical reaction which eventually opens the pods allowing reseeding to take place," said

Ms. Aston. "We have impressed on all the visitors that everything is not devastation - this is a

Bosnian

really fascinating time," said ranger Andrew Harrigan. Because of all the seeds and shoots for some of the animals now is a real feast," he

Among animals feasting on the new growth are 150 rusa deer which are proving so harmful to the park's regeneration that they are to be rounded up, tranquilised and killed.

Apart from muching away at new shoots, the deer are breaking the crust which protects seeds and heavy rain last week washed away a vast number of seeds, the NPWS says.

A small number of rusa, a native of Southeast Asia, were brought in around 1900. They multiplied and now compete with wallabies and other native

animals for food.

NPWS spokesman Stuart Cohen said the service "had to decide whether we want a national park or a deer farm and now was probably one of the most crucial times" in the history of the park which was established in 1879.

Agence France_Presse

Classrooms caught in the crossfire of guntoting youths

By Karen Lowe Agence France Presse

WASHINGTON - Armed youths in U.S. schools are becoming more common, bolder and younger and classrooms are increasingly getting caught in the crossfire.

At least 2.5 million teenagers carry guns, knives and razors and 42 per cent of them have taken them to school in the past 30 days, according to a 1991 Centres for Disease Control (CDC) survey, the latest available.

"A lot of people are afraid of going to school, of being in school and going home from school," said George Butterfield, the deputy director of the National School Safety Centre.

Disputes over snubs, wearing rival gangs' colours, stepping into the wrong turi or even unsolicited looks that were once settled behind the school with epithets or fists are now drawing gunfire in school

Last month, a student entered a chemistry classroom at Dunbar High School in Washington, asked the teacher if he could use the pencil sharpener and then pulled out a gun and fired on a student in the back row.

The bullet missed the intended target and the teacher ordered the panicked class of 20 students to dive for cover on the floor. Moments later, gunfire spilled outside the school building where 14 shots were fired.

Last year, a third-grader in Chicago pulled a gun out of his book bag and shot another student. In New York City, a 15-year-old shot and killed two teenagers in a school packed with police awaiting a speech by the mayor. Students in Cokeville, Wyoming, now have "drop-and-cover" drills.

Since 1985, the risk of being killed by firearms has increased 77 per cent for teenagers aged 15 to 19, the CDC said. In Washington, 83 of \$7 teenagers killed last year were homicide victims - three

times the national average. Harvard psychologist Alvin Poussaint said what happens at home and on the streets will inevitably determine what occurs in the classroom and Washington's statistical profile partly explains the violence.

refugees long for home By P. Parameswaran

Agence France Presse

BANGI. Malaysia - The sound of heavy artillery in Sarajevo reverberates here in Southeast Asia's only refugee camp for Bosnian Muslims. although the war takes place far away in the former Yugoslay republic.

of miles away from the fighting, we toss and turn every night haunted by machine-gun ones in Bosnia-Herzegovina,"

nian Muslims in the refugee centres at Bangi and its sursian capital Kuala Lumpur.

because we want to go home. There is no inner peace here." said Ms. Mujadzic, who lives in a block of sparsely furnished, two-room flats reserved for refugees comprising women and children.

nearby Serdang town.

The refugees were brough here by the Malaysian Muslim Youth Movement (ABIM), a non-governmental organisation, in October 1992 in response to Prime Minister Mahathir Mohammad's decision to give humanitarian aid to the besieged Bosnian Mus-

Predominantly Muslim, Malaysia, which is also the: only Southeast Asian country. to station peacekeeping troops in Surajevo, has been a vocal critic of Western nations for what it sees as their indecisiveness in halting the 22-month war among Bosnian Muslims.

Like Ms. Mujadzic, who works in a dispensary of the national Electricity Corporation Tenaga Nasional, the older refugees are engaged in jobs, including factory work, as part of efforts to make them self-reliant. The younger people among them go to school and universities.

fire and suffering of our loved said refugee Ermina Mujadzic. her eyes welling with tears. Plucked to safety from the government hospital where she worked in Travnik in central Bosnia, the 30-year-old medical assistant is among 300 Bos-

rounding area, south of Malay-"We pray the war will stop

Her male compatriots, most of them ex-Serbian concentration camp victims, and their wives stay in a block of flats in

Serbs and Croats.

Work and studies have kept the refugees husy and help cushion the pain they carry A Bosnian child pours water into a cup in a refugee camp (File photo) operator Dzevad Salihavic. with them. But local newspap-

ers plastered with news on Bosnia and television portrayal of war-ravaged victims remind them of home. "She keeps asking for her

father, but it is difficult for her to understand that he is a soldier," said refugee Edina Kenjar of her seven-vear-old daughter who attends government primary school. "We can only presume he is safe because letters from Bosnia are very rare."

The refugees have to send their letters to Geneva before they can be re-routed to Bosnia, officials said.

"Now that I have regained my health and strength. I am ready to go back and defend Bosnia," said former forklift

who claimed he was beaten up and left to starve in a Serbian concentration camp before he escaped. Mr. Salihavic said his six

brothers were still held in concentration camps when he was brought here. Last month, the refugees had their spirits boosted when

Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic toured the camp during a four-day official visit to Malaysia. They mobbed the leader and his delegation to enquire about their families back home. "I had never dreamed of

meeting the president face-toface, not even when I was a soldier in Sarajevo," said Fahruddin Krelecevics, 25. who has been on crutches ever

since he was shot in the spine by Serb soldiers.

ABIM Vice President Mohammad Anuar Tahir said the accommodation costs of the refugees would continue to be borne by his organisation until they were able to support themselves. ABIM, which runs a similar shelter for the wounded and homeless in Bosnia. also provides monthly subsidies to the refugees.

"This is our small contribution to world peace and our appreciation to the Mulavsian government efforts to seek justice for the oppressed," said the ABIM official. The Malaysian Muslim Welfare Organisation (PERKIM). helps ABIM run the refugee

Faisal to press

(Continued from page 1) and Parliament should be taken

doubts whether she could muster the required two-third vote in the House to lift Mr. Khreisha's immunity. "But that will not stop from trying," she said.

Israel, PLO near agreement

(Continued from page 1)

implemented on the ground," he told Israel radio.

After concluding talks on the police, Taba delegates have said they will address the release of thousands of Palestinian detainees in Israeli prisons. Palestinians say there are 14,000, but Israel puts the number at half that. The Palestinians have said

that a final agreement will not be signed until there is an agenda scheduling the release of Palestinian prisoners, including those belonging to organisations that oppose the peace process.

Serbs defy NATO ultimatum

(Continued from page 1)

Muslim commander General Rasim Delic who had been due to attend the meeting failed to

Sarajevo.

In Brussels NATO sources said the head of the alliance's forces in Europe was to meet former Yugoslavia this week to discuss differences over enforcement of the ultimatum, as signs emerged that NATO was becoming increasingly critical of apparently inadequate U.N. plans to monitor the Serb artil-

with the U.N. special envoy to

lery around the city. The White House said it was

studying the manner in which U.N. forces are placing heavy weapons under supervision in Sarajevo. NATO sources have criti-

cised U.N. peacekeepers for allowing Serb forces to put heavy guns under "observation" rather than handing them over to full U.N. control.

her case

senously." Ms. Faisal admitted that she

Asian exporters gain ground in Arab Gulf trade

ABU DHABI (AFP) — Japan and other Asian countries are gaining ground in a hectic race by major industrial states to grab a bigger share of the lucrative Arab Gulf market, official figures showed Tues-

day.

Trade figures for Dubai, the main commercial centre in the Gulf, showed Japan and China topped the list of exporters to the emirate and other Asian states boosted sales as exports by most Western countries fell.

Dubai handles nearly one fifth of the Gulf's non-oil trade and this made it the barometre of economic activity in the region. A large part of its imports are reexported to Iran, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and other countries.

In 1993, its trade hit a record 65.3 billion dirhams (\$17.5 billion), including 50.5 billion dirhams (\$13.7 billion) worth of imports, according to figures by the government statistics

Japan topped the list of exporters to the emirate, with sales of 7.1 billion dirhams (\$1.93 billion), accounting for 14 per cent of the total improts. China came second. withexports of 4.4 billion dirhams (\$1.19 billion), accounting for 8.7 per cent of

"The 1993 figure for China was higher by around 13 per cent than in 1992," a Dubai trade official said. "China has made tremendous progress in entering the Gulf market. A. lew years ago, its exports to Dubai were negligible."

Most of China's exports to the emirate were textile and lothes, which were worth 1.6illion dirhams (\$435 million), and electric appliances with a value of 915 million dirhams \$249 million).

China launched a dirve into as incentive, reward he Gulf market with the openng of a commercial centre in Jubai and the organisation of xhibitions after it established liplomatic ties with states in he region in the mid-1980s. Its trade with Gulf states had ot exceeded \$100 million a

S

Tt Tc

jõi ea

Japan is also one of the iggest exporters to the sixation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), with exports tanding at \$9 billion in 1992. hey include cars, watches. nd electronic and electric ap-

Viacom announces victory in bid for Paramount

NEW YORK (R) — Viacom Inc. said Tuesday it won the bidding war for Paramount Communications, collecting almost 75 of Paramount stock with its tender offer and ending one of the biggest corporate takeover battles since the

Viacom said stockholders of New York-based Paramount, which owns Paramount Pictures, Simon and Schuster Publishers, the New York Kincks basketball team and the New York Rangers hockey team, had tendered 91.7 million shares of stock by the midnight Monday (0500 GMT) deadline, representing 74.6 per cent of the outstanding shares.

BUCHAREST (R) — Roma-

nian trade unions, flexing their

muscles in the biggest show-

down with government since

the 1989 revolution, are plan-

ning a general strike aimed at

ousting Prime Minister Nicolae

Vacaroiu for bungling econo-

The ex-communist Balkan

country's three main trade un-

ion blocs are uniting for the

first time on a national scale

with plans to cripple the eco-

nomy through stoppages on

The leading daily newspaper Evenimentul Zilei said the

general strike plan was a "dec-

laration of war against the reg-

ime" and that the government

would come out fighting "with

Labour unrest has grown

steadily among the 23 million

Romanians, fuelled by 300 per

cent inflation and low pay,

since the one-party communist

state collapsed in December

But the three big unions say a half-harted and haphazard

approach to free-market re-

form is the cause of economic

Since Mr. Vacaroju took

office following hung elections

18 months ago, the economy

has been a mess, foreign credi-

tors have stopped lending cash

to Romania and privatisation

and other key reforms have

WASHINGTON (R) — Presi-

dent Clinton Monday pledged

\$396 million in new U.S. eco-

nomic assistance to Kazakh-

stan to help the former Soviet

republic move to a market

economy and dismantle nuc-

Mr. Clinton, at a news con-

ference with Kazakhstan Presi-

dent Nursultan Nazarbayev,

promised the aid after Mr.

Nazarbayev presented him

with papers documenting

Kazakhstan's decision in De-

cember to join the nuclear

lear weapons.

Clinton raises aid to Kazakhs

its entire arsenal.

mic reforms.

Feb. 28.

Romanian unions

plan general strike

Only 50.1 per cent of the stock was needed for a victory. Viacom also said in a statement that its rival for Parafrount. QVC Network, is reruired to end its competing bid is soon as it receives official teord of the successful Viacom

"We remain resolute in our intentions and unwavering in our conviction that the combination of Viacom. Paramount and Blockbuster will create a global media powerhouse of unparalleled proportions in the entertainment industry," said Sumner Redstone, chairman of Viacom. "Today is the beginning of the creation of this vast new enter-

slowed to a snail's pace.

Police said eight people

homes were hit by gas and power cuts, which were

blamed on the freeze but which

are an annual event due to bad

mangement of state-owned uti-

The Alfa, CNSRL-Fratia

and NUB union movements

claiming over 5.2 million work-

ers - most of the state sector

industrial work force - have

urged Mr. Vacaroin and his

minority left-wing cabinet to

resign by March and make way

for a broader and more expert

coalition, possibly including

farming and transport are

already stoking the fires of confrontation between the

merging trade union move-

Railway repair workers

stoned the transport ministry

and clashed with riot police in

Bucharest last Friday in a dis-

pute over delayed wage pay-

ments and inter-enterprise

Coalminers in the western

Jiu Valley coalfields began a

strike on Monday. Although

Industry Minister Dumitru

Popescu said only 2,000 pitmen

had joined it, several hundred

militants forcibly occupied

non-proliferation treaty. Declaring a "bright new

era" in U.S.-Kazakh relations,

Mr. Clinton raised to \$311

million this year from \$91 mil-

lion last year the economic

assistance to Kazakhstan to

help the country's transition to

to extend another \$85 million

this year and in 1995 to help

Kazakhstan dismantle a nuc-

lear arsenal left on its territory

after the collapse of the Soviet

And he said he was prepared

a market economy.

ment and the government.

Warning strikes in mining,

trade unionists.

Viacom has also agreed to merge with Blockbuster Entertainment, a Fort Lauderdale, Florida-based video retailer whose stores are well knwon across the country. On Sunday rival Paramount

bidder QVC, a Wester Chester. Pennsylvania-based television shopping channel company, said it would not raise its QVC Chairman Barry Diller

had been said to be considering a new bid if neither company obtained enough shares to win Monday. Analysts and takeover stock

specialists had predicted

Viacom would receive the

necessary Paramount stock to declare victory. Viacom, a Dedham. Massachusetts-based cable television and broadcast company, bid a combination of cash and stock valued by analysts as worth at least \$9.5

QVC's final bid, also cash and stock, was valued at a minimum of \$8.9 billion. Arbitragers, who controlled 30-50 per cent of Paramount stock, said they favoured the Viacom bid because it offered more cash and promised to

The expiration of the offers followed a week of dramatic

protect the value of Viacom

activity in which QVC seemed to be trying to find a way to improve its bid for Paramount and prevent defeat.

QVC's statement Sunday was regarded by many as a concession, although it continued to maintain it had the better bid.

As late as midday Monday, QVC asked Paramount's board to reconsider its recommendation in favour of the Viacom offer, on the basis of declines in value of Viacom's stock price, which were due to growing perceptions it would

Paramount rejected the request for reconsideration.

Arab farming sector hit by pollution and lack of funds

ABU DHABI (AFP) — Arab countries have enough arable land to feed their people but pollution and lack of investments in the farm sector make them heavily dependent on imported food, according to a regional study.

Around 200 million hectares could be cultivated in the Arab region but only 50 million hectares are being exploited, said the study, published in the latest issue of the United Arab Emirates oil ministry maga-

With a population growth of nearly three per cent a year, the food gap has steadlily widened over the past two decades and is expected to worsen unless Arab governments take measures to expand their farming sector.

Between 1980 and 1990, the cumulative Arab food import bill reached around \$190 billion while nearly \$46 billion worth of farm equipment were also imported during the same period, the study said.

"The exacerbation of the food problem in the Arab World is attributed to desertification and malpractices by Arab people, including pollution, using improper irrigation systems, failure to fully exploit arable areas, and a construction onslaught on cultivated land," it said. "The problem is" aggravating every day as the population is growing fast and investments in the agricultural sector are insufficient.'

Experts said the Arab food

gap, the differnces between imports and exports, continued to increase after 1990, reaching around \$22 billion a year.

DUBA! (Result oil person to deversor cubic cubic

Nearly 40 per cent of the gap exists in the oil-rich Gulf states, which depend more on food imports given their and desert and scarse rain. A three to four per cent growth in the population of the six Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) has nearly doubled their food gap to \$9 billion a year. Experts believe the Arab

food problem could be tackled through adopting better farming policies and investments by GCC states in farming in fertile Arab countries. But they stress Arabs must first end their political differences and create a right investment atmosphere. "You cannot expect Sandi

Arabia to invest in such a vital sector in / Iraq for example given their political dispute," one expert said.

Iraq is also suffering from a United Nations embargo while other fertile states in the region have their own problems. Sudan, dubbed the Arab food basket, is rocked by civil hostilities, Lebanon is still recovering from its 15-year civil war and Syria remains technically at war with Israel. Somalia was hit with famine

due to the conflict there although it had the biggest number of cattle in the Arab World. Other fertile nations. like Tunisia and Morocco are suffering from a shortage of

Dollar hits six-month low in Tokyo

stock in the deal.

Japan says U.S. trade sanctions would kill dialogue

froze to death during a cold snap in Bucharest this week as TOKYO (Agencies) — Japan warned the United States Tuesday that American sanctions would mean an end to dialogue on resolving their bilateral trade row and proposed a fresh summit to straighten things out.

The failure of Friday's summit between Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa and U.S. President Bill Clinton has sent the dollar tailspinning along with prices of Tokyo stocks.

Economists warned the market turmoil could dash hopes for Japan's early recovery from recession.

As Tokyo struggled to cope with the twin falls, the top government spokesman reacted sharply to U.S. talk of imposing sanctions over allegations that Japan kept it cellular phone markets unfairly closed. This is the first specific issue to emerge since Friday's trade talks breakdown.

"We have no formal report of this talk on sanctions (on cellular phones)," chief cabinet secretary Masayoshi Takemura told a news conference.

"But sanctions would mean an end to discussion. We hope the Americans will take a commonsense approach," Mr. Takemura said. In Washington, U.S. gov-

ernment officials said the Clinton administration was expected to rule that Japan violated a deal on the telephones but denied it would impose sanctions.

The New York Times, however, reported the U.S. government had already decided to initiate sanctions. It was unclear whether this

meant Washington would immediately impose sanctions or whether this was merely the start of a process leading to punitive measures.

"Talk of sanctions should come at the very, very, very is seriously trying to do all it can," Mr. Takemura said.

government ministries Tuesday to draw up a set of emergency market-opening measures to placate the angry Americans, Mr. Takemura Mr. Takemura said the

Mr. Hosokawa instructed

direction of such new measures would be decided as soon as the rest of the Japanese summit team, still in Washington, returned home later this week. The chief strategist in Mr.

Hosokawa's coalition, Ichiro Ozawa, called for a fresh summit, the Jiji News Agency re-"It should be resolved as

soon as possible in a dialogue (between Clinton and Hosokawa)," Mr. Osawa told repor-"As a result of the Japan-

U.S. summit talks, the yen has risen (and if the situation remains unchanged) the exportled Japanese economy will suffer big damage," Mr. Ozawa In last week's Washington

talks, Mr. Hosokawa rejected U.S. demands to set "numerical targets" in specific trade sectors to measure how well the Japan kept its marketopening promises.

A leading Japanese banker said the idea of numerical targets was off the mark and would not resolve the problem.

Toyoo Gyoten, Bank of Tokyo chairman and former top finance ministry bureaucrat, said: "What the negotiators were discussing at the table (in Washington) was a rather marginal increment of American export to the Japanese market...

During the past 20 to 30 years, he said, the growing trade gap had not been checked by the dollar's fall from 360 yen to almost 100 yen or by

asures, while Japan's domestic demand had grown faster than in America. "There should be more transfer of productive capacity

numerous market-opening me-

from Japan to the United States, thereby reducing Japan's excess capacity while reducing the United States' lack of capacity," he said. The dollar closed sharply lower in hectic trading in Tokyo Tuesday at 102.02 yen after hitting a six-month low of

dollar purchases. The closing rate was down 3.67 yen from the previous day's finish of 105.69 yen and down 0.53 yen from a late Monday quote of 102.55 yen in New York.

101.90 yen and prompting the

Bank of Japan to step in with

Fears were mounting that the dollar would duck below a historic barrier of 100 yen as intervention by the Bank of Japan alone could hardly stop the yen's further advance.

Mr. Hosokawa, leading a chorus of worries by Japanese government leaders, told reporters he was "gravely concerned" over the yen's sharp rise which followed the collapse of U.S.-Japan trade talks in Washington.

Finance Minister Hirohisa Fujii said the foreign exchange market had been marked with 'speculative moves" which would be "undesirable for the world economy." "We will respond in a timely and appropriate manner," he said, indicating further intervention by the central bank.

Manae Kubota, the state minister for economic planning, said the yen's sharp rise would "put a damper on the private sector's enthusiasm" after the government announced a massive economic package last week to stimulate consumer and capital spend-

HOROSCOPE FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 16, 1994

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer. Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Carefully go over reports and statements to make certain they are accurate, before you attempt to draw logical conclusions from these financial papers. Who exactly is standing behind them?

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) You are able to get the support you need for important projects from good friends who have the means. Then get busy at those tasks ahead of you and complete them quickly.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Contact individuals who will help you make your property more how to add to present income appreciably in an ethical fashion. GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) If you talk over some problem with

person who thinks differently from you, you find you can solve it quickly. Kin will help you with some task that is most boring for MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to

July 21) If you waste too much time just worrying about a prob-lem, you accomplish very little. so toss it aside for now and tomorrow the right solution comes to you.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Talk over that new project with a friend and then see about getting the financial backing you need for it. Forget social life tonight. since little or nothing would come of it.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Study that public problem well before you try to handle

it. Show you are not a superficial persons. Others are depending on you to get some work done, do it without fail and do it well. LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) You have inspired ideas

Mari

Deutsc

Europe

Vetai

Curre

Deuts

LOND(leading on the

successful instead of discouraging failures. Information from one overseas can be helpful. SCORPIO: (October 23 to OUT responsibilities satisfactori

how to put new life into old

projects that will make them.

November 21) Plans must be well worked out if you want to handle ly today. Don't rely on advisors since they are busy. SAGITTARIUS: (November 22

to December 21) Pay attention to the ideas of an associate and do not look for bigwigs to do more for you than you have a right to

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Ideal day to attend to tasks that only you can handle properly and do so in a clever and ingenious way. Expressing some particular talent you have

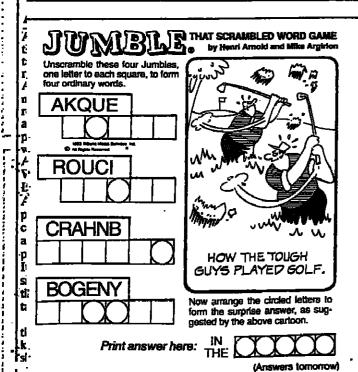
is also good. AQUARIUS: (January 21 to ebruary 19) A romantic interest has some rather strange ideas today, so smile them away and do not break up the relationship. Tomorrow they will be forgot-

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) You had better cooperate with what family has in mind or you can certainly be the loser, as well as they. Ridding yourself of the cause of tensions at home is

59 Old auto 60 Coq au — 61 Narrow

THE BETTER HALF, By Glasbergen GLASBERGEN

"We're going out tonight and we haven't had a fight yet. It's bad luck to go out without fighting first."



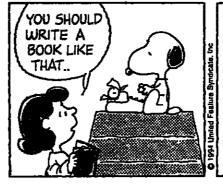
Jumbles: POUND BLOOD BLUISH MIDDAY

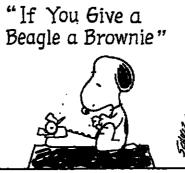
Answer: What you like to hear best after dinner "I'LL BUY"

Peanuts

empire two years ago.



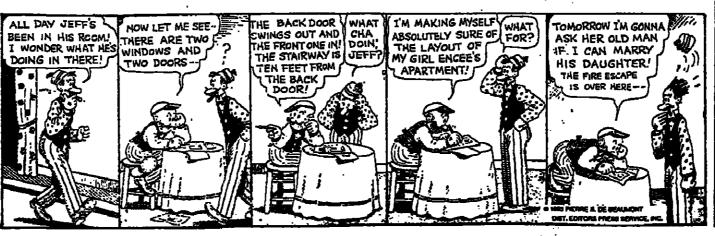




Andy Capp



Mutt'n'Jeff



THE Daily Crossword by Stanley B. Whitter 13 Baobab 15 — Grande 16 Kazan-dire film (1953) 21 Type of owl 22 Table scraps 24 Stags work 27 Bone: pref. 28 Adjusts 30 Extra large vitamin amou 32 Robards/Bal-36 Regret 37 Unit of work or Unit of work 38 Resort 41 Pacino/Carmor film (1982) 44 Humbug 47 Immerge 48 Composer Schifrin 49 Roger — film critic Yastarday's Puzzle Solvad direction Embroiden 52 Kett of comics 53 Arabian prince loops 12 Perfectly 54 Very small: pref. 56 Football scores: 17 Neighbor of III. 18 Valerie Harper sitcom ton (1982) 62 Comp. pt. 19 African prima 23 Ross or Baltic - mald DOWN 1 Carpat holder 2 Dynamo part 3 Obsarve 4 Towel word 5 Happen again 6 Crintson Tide 7 "— Yankee Doodse..." 8 Male turkey 9 Haff a fty? 40 Locations 41 Nautical word 42 Hole

43 Foot digit

reserves at 500b m³

Yemen estimates gas sector n and

erts believe the

roblem could be its

h adopting better licies and investmen

tates in farming in countries. But they

must first end then

ifferences and que

nvestment atmost

n cannot extent?

to invest in such

in Iraq for the

their political des

is also suffering to

Nations embargor

ertile states in their

their own probe

dubbed the Ard

, is rocked by civile

ebanon is still too.

om its 15-year dwg.

Tia remains techn

alia was hit with te

o the conflict t

gh it had the by

r of cattle in the

Other fertile to

unisia and Moroog

ng from a shorte

BRUARY 16, 194

roll Righter Founds:

VOIL are not a suprice

Others are depend

to get some work to:

thout fail and done

(September 23 to the

You have inspired & put new life imo s that will make 🕸 ul instead of discour ures. Information in rseas can he helpfal 'IO: (October B:) er 21) Plans musike out if you want toles

Don't rely on adve

'ARIUS: (Novembr.)

mber 21) Pay attenust

s of an associate and

for highigs to do 🖭

than you have a neb:

ORN: December 2

20) Ideal day to att

that only you can but

and do so in a de-

entous way Express.

rticular taleni you's.

HUS: (January 🗓

y 19) A romantic inte

e rather strange it

o smile them away? reak up the relations.

ow they will be loop

(February 20 to list a had better cooper at family has in mid

certainly he the lost hey. Ridding yourse

e of tensions at home

* Per 180

good.

ev are busy

PE

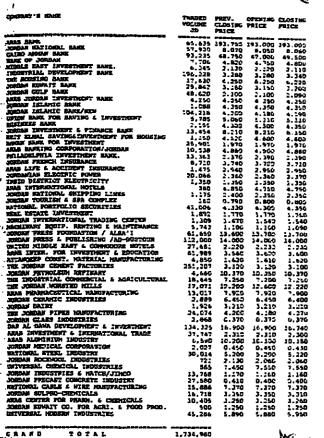
with Israel.

pert said.

DUBAI (R) — Yemen, a small oil producer which is trying to develop its natural gas resources, said gas reserves could be much more than 18 the differences be milion cubic feet (500 billion cubic metres). Yemen's Oil s and exports, out tase after 1990 le Minister Saleh Abu Bakr Bin ease after 1990, the 1 \$22 billion a year in the oil-rich Hussainoun was quoted by the London-based Asharq Al Awsat newspaper as saying 15 milion cubic feet of gas rewhich depend ne. serves are located in Marib and mports given the three trillion cubic feet in and scarse rain. A. Shabwah. "In addition to those r per cent growth; atton of the sir, ration Council is arly doubled then \$9 billion a year

two fields there are other discoveries whose reserves are not yet established precisely. In any case, I think that gas reserves in Yemen are very large," the newspaper quoted him as saying in an interview. The newpaper quoted him as saying Yemen was discussing a programme with the U.S.'s Enron Corp. to pump about five million tonnes of gas a year to Omran, on the coast of Aden in the former South Ye-

amman financial market HOUSING RAFF CENTER ANNUA - SEPERIANI
TELEPHOPE: 660:70 / 66,170
ORGANIZED MARKET SHARE FRICE LIST FOR TUSEDAY 15/62/1944



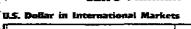
RETURNAL CADAL TO THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY OF PERSON. & CHEMICALS SCHEME STURIT CO. FOR AGRI. & POOD THE PROPERTY OF THE P

Jordan Times -Financial

Markets

DAR AL DAWA DEVELOPMENT & INVESTMENT FARM SWETTERST TOWN IT THE ALAR ALBORNIUM INDUSTRY ADDRESS REVICAL CORPORATION EXPENSES. ETELL INDUSTRY DOSSAN ROCKHOOL INDUSTRIES DEVELOEM INDUSTRIES DAWAR INDUSTRIES OF HIS FOREST LINDUSTRY REGIONAL CARLE & WIRE PREPARED LORDEN SUPPORTURED. SOME PROPARED LORDEN SUPPORTURED.

Cairo Amman Bank



Currency	New York Close Date 14/2/94	Tokyo CLose 11 Patr 15/2/94
Sterling Pound	1.4855	1.4635
Deutsche Mark	1.7245	1.7269
Swiss Franc	1.4550	1.4552
French Franc	5.8720	5.8920**
Japanese Yen	102.20	102.02
European Curreny Unit	1.1233	1.1197**

LSD Per STG

Frecious A	herais	.M. 41311		Date: 15	5/2/1994
Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm*	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm
Gold	384.75	7.60	Silver	5.35	0.120

Date: 15/2/1994

Сигтевсу	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.6980	0.7000
Sterling Pound	1.0340	1.0392
Deutsche Mark	0.4033	0.4053
Swiss Franc	0.4786	0.4810
French Franc	0.1185	0.1191
Japanese Yen	0.6817	0.651
Dutch Guilder	0.3597	0.3615
Swedish Krona	****	******
Italian Lire -	0.0418	0.0420
Belgian Franc	242224	4622742

Other Currencies	Date	: 15/2/1994
Сигтевсу	Bid	Offer
Rahraini Dinar	1.8320	1.8480
Lebanese Lira"	0.040450	0.041575
Saudi Riyal	0.1858	0.1867
Kawaki Dinar	2.3380	2.3600
Qetari Riyal	0.1895	0.1905
Egyptian Pound	0.2050	0.2200
Omani Riyal	1.7900	1.8060
UAE Dirtam	0.1895	0.1905
Greek Drachma*	0.2685	0.3055
Cypriot Pound	1.3250	1.3650

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London Foreign Exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

\$383.90/384.40

Canadian dollar

Deutschemarks

Dutch guilders

Swiss francs Belgian francs

French francs

Japanese yen

Danish crowns

Swedish crowns

Norwegian crowns

Italian lire

in the London Foreign Exchange and		
J.S. \$1.00 costs	1.3510/20	
	1.7356/66	
and a firm of	1.9468/78	
5,500	1.4590/00	
	35. <i>72/</i> 76	
. '	5.9025/75	
·	1680.8/2.3	
	103.60/70	
•	8.0108/08	
	7.4835/85	
•	6.7553/03	
One sterling	\$1.4706/16	
ar-iting		

One sterling

One ounce of gold

Fokker to slash another 1,900 jobs

AMSTERDAM (AFP) -Dutch aircraft manufacturer Fokker has announced that it was cutting 1,900 jobs and slashing production to around 40 planes a year.

A company spokesman said host of the job losses would be "indirect," meaning jobs not involved directly in manufacturing,, such as administrative. supervisory and management

A restructuring plan will be discussed in the coming months with the trade unions. Employees expressed shock and called the move a "disaster."

The restructuring plan should be ready by the end of the month, and will then be discussed with unions and the shop committee, the company spokesman said. He noted that the most recent restructuring plan, announced last April, concerned 2,100 jobs but had resulted in the axing of only 1,500 positions as of last Dec.

Fokker had about 9,000 em-

ployees at that time. The firm said its hand had been forced by "even stronger competition among the constructors, the recession lasting longer than expected in the airline sector, and the poor financial results affecting those companies because of this."

It noted that "those poor results are leading the airlines to reduce transport capacity and hold back from replacing their old equipment." It also said that to come up

with the reductions in production costs that are now "inevitable," it will be necessary to "make manufacturing processes more efficient and more flexible, to lower the time for turning out planes." Some management positions will be done away with "to speed up decision-making and make decisions applicable."

Talks will be held with Fokker partners and suppliers to adapt contracats to today's market prices, the firm said.

Chinese peasants surviving on less than \$20 a year

BEIJING (AFP) - Deng Xiaoping's China may now have a host of millionaires but it also has 100 million poor, many of whom survive on less than \$20 a year, the China Youth daily said Tuesday. Average income in 1992 for

inhabitants of the small town of Qibailong, in the arid mountainous western area of the autonomous region of Guangxi, was 164 yuan (\$19), said the

Fewer than 10 per cent of families in the town had morre than \$34 to live on, said the paper which described the southern town as "one of the poorest places on earth."

About 2,000 people out of a

population of 16,700 have been

forced to seek work in towns

further south to avoid starva-A few days ago regional officials decided to move 200,000 people from Guangxi who live in a state of poverty

similar to that of Qibailong,

said the report. China has between 80 and 120 million needy people, according to the latest official and World Bank statistics.

About 25 million peasants live on the threshold of poverty which is set at \$23 a year and the official press has published a series of articles recently warning that some regions were becoming poorer due to a lack of solidarity between provinces.

Since China's economy began to surge ahead in 1992, the gap between rich and coastal provinces and the poorer interior regions has become

The gap between town and country is also widening. Citizens have seen their incomes rise by around 10 per cent in 1993 while those of peasants have risen by only two per cent. Millions of country dwellers saw their standard of living fall in the past year.

India received \$4.4 billion

NEW DELHI (AFP) - Foreign investors have committed \$4.38 billion to projects in India since the government of Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao opened the doors in 1991, an official statement said Tuesday.

Investment proposals worth \$2.95 billion won the government's approval in 1993 alone. the statement said, describing it as "the year of unprecedented response" to India's liberalisation policy.

U.S. companies were the top investors in 1993 with pledges worth \$1.15 billion, followed by the British with \$207 mil-The Sultanate of Oman

emerged as the third-largest investor, committing \$180 mil-

"There has also been increase in investments from Switzerland, the United Arab

of investments since '91 Emirates, Thailand, the Netherlands, Japan, Mexico, Germany, Ireland, France, Mauritius, Italy and Hong Kong," the government state-

ment said.

Expatriate Indians pledged an additional \$3 billion last year to projects they propose to establish in the country of their birth.

Oil refineries, power plants, food processing, metalurgy, electrical equipment, chemicals and the services sector attracted the most foreign money.

Actual investment flows have been a relatively modest \$881 million since New Delhi threw out an array of restrictions on foreign companies and dangled incentives. Officials say investment will

rise as projects in such timeconsuming sectors as power and oilk take shape.

Singapore port sets new record in container units handled

SINGAPORE (AFP) - Singapore's port, the world's second busiest container terminal after Hong Kong, achieved another recordbreaking performance last year, according to preliminary statistics.

A Port of Singapore Authority (PSA) report said the total number of 20-foot equivalent unit (YEU) containers handled by the port exceeded nine million units for the first time.

The 9.04 TEUs handled last year was about 20 per cent more than the 7.5 million TEUs handled in the previous year. In 1991 the port handled 6.3 million TEUs, the report

Loaded containers amounted to 7.76 million units while 1.28 million TEUs were empty.

The nine million mark was achieved in December with the preliminary figures for the month accounting for 830,000 units, the highest handled in a

single month in 1993. PSA expects the final figure for the month of December 1993 to be slightly higher as the last three months of the year

are usually its busiest period. Despite its record-breaking performance in container handling, the Singapore port was still expected to finish behind the British colony, which has always edged Singapore for the top place in container car-

According to local press reports, Hong Kong handled 6.7 million TEUs for the first nine months of last year, a 16.2 per cent increase over the corresponding period in 1992. Growth in the last quarter of 1993 is expected to be stronger with the colony's port finishing ahead of Singapore again.

General cargo, including containerised and conventional, handled by the port here increased to 273.7 million tonnes last year, compared ot 238.4 million tonnes in 1992.

Palestinians set first autonomy budget at \$600m

C ^CUPIED JERUSALEM (AFP) — The PLO has worked out a hist budget of \$600 million to cover the running of the autonomous authority in the occupied territories this year, Palestinian economist Samir Abdallah told AFP.

The figures, calculated on the assumption that autonomy will be launched in March, allow for a \$158 million deficit. Some \$280 million should be raised from direct taxation, said

Mr. Abdallah, a member of the Palestinian Economic Council for Development and Reconstruction (PECDR) set up by PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat to oversee the \$2 billion aid promised by donor countries for the five years of autonomy.

He noted that most of the deficit should be covered by \$120

million promised by donors for administrative affairs. "This budget does not cover infrastructure or any development

projects. This will be dealt with elsewhere," he noted. PECDR advertised in Tuesday's Palestinian press 16 management jobs for the tax and finance departments in the future authority which is to non daily life in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho.

Middle East Airlines needs \$100m to survive

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanon's national carrier Middle East Airlines (MEA) broke even in 1993 but needs \$100 million over the next three years to modernise its fleet and stay aloft. MEA Chairman Abdul Hamid Fakhoury said. MEA wanted to borrow or lease three new planes this year, he

told the bi-monthly Beirut business magazine Le Commerce du Mr. Fakhoury said 1993 financial results were the airline's best

since 1981 and it expected a 12 per cent increase in traffic this

But costs rose 100 per cent in 1993 and MEA expected more competition as world airlines reentered the Lebanese market. The best way to reduce costs was to modernise the fleet and a decision to increase capital to do so was needed if MEA was to survive, Mr. Fakhoury said. MEA is owned by the Lebanese government, Air France and Kuwait Airlines.

Mr. Fakhoury said the 1992 decision of the Lebanese government to make MEA a state a monopoly indicated its intention to maintain the airline.

yjuuunununununununununununusuun Maybe it begins at 3°. Maybe 40. But somehow, your birth stone makes the difference!

INTERNATIONAL DOOR TO DOOR REMOVALS

GERMAN DRIVERS - AIR - RIDDEN REMOVAL TRUCKS

YOUR REGULAR LINK TO AND FROM EUROPE

SPECIALISTS FOR DIPLOMATIC REMOVALS

FOR DETAILED INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

EASTERN SERVICES

OFFICIAL DANZAS AGENT IN JORDAN

PEACE BUILDING - JABAL LWEIBDEH

AMMAN - JORDAN

TEL: 621 775 TLX: 23023 FAX: 656 270

IN THE NEAR EAST



FOR YOUR

Advertisement

in 🎬

Jordan

Times

Cali tel:

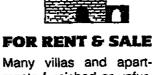
Amra Hotel Amman



THE PROFESSIONALS ALWAYS CHOOSE THE RELIABLE

PACKING, AIR FREIGHT FORWARDING, DOOR-to DOOR SERVICES AND DELIVERIES, CUSTOMS CLEARANCE, TICKETS AND, RESERVATIONS.

AMIN KAWAR&SONS PO BOX 7806



Many villas and apartments furnished or unfur-

For more details call: **Abdoun Real Estate** Tel. 810605/810609/810520 Fax: 810520



CHEN'S CHINESE RESTAURANT A Restaurant With An Artistic Ambiance

JABAL ANNAN PRET CIRCLE OPPOSITE THE IRACI EMBASSY TEL, 664

Mecca Street, Yarmouk Engineers' Housing Estate, near Kilo Supermarket Mongolian Barbeque for Lunch Friday only Tel: 818214 Come and taste our specialities

Open daily 12:00 - 3:30 p.m. 6:30 - Midnight The First Class Hotel in Amman that has a

STUDIO HAIG Professional Quality in 1 Hour Service

our shop and get:- JUMBO photo size 30% larger Free enlarge-

Shmeisani - Opp. Grindlays Bank. Phone: 604042 Swefieh tel: 823891

ment 20 x 30 cm

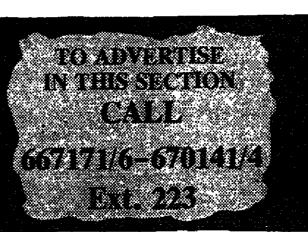
Develop your colour film at

Kitchenette in every room... "Satellite T.V. Reception" DAROTEL

Amman - Tel. 668193 P.O.Box 9403 - Fax 602434 Telex 23888 DAROTL JO Ideal Residence For Expatriates and Businessmen















Benita



The first & best Chinese Restaurant in Jordan 1st Circle Jabal Amman, near, Ahiyyah Giris School Take away is available open daily

5:00 - 11:30 p.m.: Tel. 638968

We try harder.

2 699-420

LARA SALON AND **BEAUTY CENTRE**

Hairstyling, hair removal with hot wax and Arabic way. Manicure, pedicure and facials.

Sweifieh, opposite Boston Fried Chicken.

S. Africa faces threat of secession

South Africa is faced with a real threat of secesion by the Kwazulu black homeland and the surrounding province of Natal after Zulu King Goodwill Zwelethini's demand Monday for a sovereign kingdom, analysts said Tuesday.

. . .

.

"My feeling is that this is serious," said Tom Lodge, a political science professor at the University of the Witwatersrand here. "This is not simply a threat of secession he means it.

In talks with President F.W. De Klerk in Durban Monday, King Zwelethini demanded a sovereign state with borders stretching from the Indian Ocean in the east, the Drakensberg Mountains in the West and Mozambique in the north — the Zulu kingdom as it was before Britain began conquering it in 1834.

"I am asking for something that belongs to me and my people, no one else," King Zwelethini, accompanied by Kwazulu chief minister and Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) leader Mangosuthu Buthèlezi, said after the meeting, as some 40,000 of his spear-wielding subjects paralysed the streets

Earlier, he told supporters at a rally that negotiations had failed to secure a just future for the Zulu nation and he had 'come to the end of the road." King Zwelethini's secession

threat is not the only one the new South Africa is facing. The white far-right Afrikaner Volksfront (AVF) has vowed to set up its own home-

land — in a territory it has yet

to define - and the

JON STESBURG (R) -

monarchy in Natal based on

the kingdom founded there by

the Zulu warrior hero Shaka in

the 19th century is open to

dispute, according to South

gosutu Buthelezi, chief minis-

ter of the Kwazulu black

homeland, demanded of Presi-

dent F.W. De Klerk Monday

that present-day Natal pro-

vince including Kwazulu be

hived off from the post-

histories and they know what

really happened," Mary De

Haas, an anthropologist at the

University of Natal in Durban,

said Tuesday. "They would

certainly dispute the king's ver-

"A lot of people have family

apartheid South Africa.

King Goodwill and Man-

African historians.

.ndwill Zwelithini's

le an independent

Bophuthatswana black homeland says it will refuse to be reincorporated into South Africa after all-race elections in April.

All three, grouped together in the Freedom Alliance, have rejected a new interim constitution hammered out in democracy talks and announced Saturday that they would not contest the poll.

"What the king and Buthelezi are looking for is not a federal state, but a confederal state," Mr. Lodge said.

"The government and the African National Congress (ANC) can't be completely dismissive of their claims because they are capable of doing a lot of harm," he said. "The fact that they can muster 40.000 armed men in the middle of Durban cannot be taken light-

Tony Leon of the Liberal Democratic Party feared King Zwelethini's demand would dash hopes for a peaceful election in Natal, where the IFP and the ANC are fighting a virtual civil war that claimed nearly 2,000 lives last year

"His demand is perhaps an extreme reaction to isolation and exclusion that he and the IFP feel at this time," Mr. Leon said. "Whether it is a final or an opening bid to get reacton is unclear, but it has to be taken seriously.

"It will be impossible to have a proper election if we have a well organised section of the community preventing the process," he added.

The government is due to respond to the Zulu king's demands Thursday.

terim constitution thrashed out

in two years of democracy talks

and plan to boycott the coun-

try's first all-race elections in

argued in their submission to

Mr. De Klerk that the Zulu

kingdom had existed its crea-

tion by Shaka, who reigned for

12 years before his assassina-

history in which our great

founding father King Shaka...

founded the mightiest kingdom

and empire the whole of south-

ern and central Africa had ever

Zulu kingdom fell apart after

the death of Shaka. While it

existed, its core remained in

the northern half of what is

"To say the kingdom encom-

But Ms. De Haas said the

seen," Mr Buthelezi said.

There was a great period of

tion in 1828.

now Natal.

The king and Mr. Buthelezi

S. African historians question Zulu claims on Natal

Kwazulu and IFP demands for self-rule under a soveriegn monarch are not new.

In 1992, Mr. Buthelezi published a secessionist constitution for Kwazulu and Natal calling for the recognition of the authority of the Zulu king.

Listing the fundamental principles on which the IFP would not compromise earlier this month, Mr. Buthelezi included recognition of the Zulu monarchy and its sovereignty over Natal/Kwazulu.

In a report on Feb. 1, the Sowetan newspaper predicted that the Zulu king would declare Natal a sovereign monarchy, then decree that there will be no elections on his territory.

The IFP officials told the newspaper that any attempt to invade Kwazulu would unleash armed resistance.

Mr. Lodge doubted that the threat of secession would succeed because Kwazulu, like the nine other black homelands, is almost totally dependent on the central government for funding, and Pretoria could easily strangle any attempt at a unilateral declaration of independence.

The youth wing of Inkatha Freedom Party said Tuesday it would start a campaign of de-fiance to South Africa's Transitional Executive Council

"We are going to defy every-thing said and done by the TEC, unless they meet our demands," Inkatha Youth Brigade Publicity Secretary Zenzele Phakathi said by telephone from Ulundi, capital of the Kwazulu black homeland. Mr. Phakati said the youth

watersrand, Carolyn Hamil-

ton, said the Zulu kingdom

disintegrated in civil wars fol-

lowing a decisive defeat by

suggest that in the kingdom's

lifetime a broad identity as

'Zulu' ever developed," she

said. 'The kingdom was not.

as is commonly thought, a

Ms. Hamilton said it was

only in the 1920s, when blacks

in Natal began to feel the

effects of the white-dominated

political and economic order.

that a broad Zulu identity took

in Natal and Zululand became

LONDON (AFP) - British

Foreign Secretary Douglas

Hurd said Tuesday he believed

the Conservative Party would not be "silly" enough to

change its leader Prime Minis-

ter John Major because of un-

In an interview with the In-

dependent newspaper, Mr.

Hurd warned that further

back-biting and disunity

among the ranks would cause

as much long-term damage to

conservatism as had been done

to the opposition Labour Party

Mr. Hurd, who is the

cabinet's senior statesman,

said party-members who had

real differences over policy

were entitled to make their

views known, but the damag-

ing phase of "chattering" had

Mr. Hurd said he did not

believe the Tories would

to be brought to an end.

in the past.

rest that would cause.

"Large numbers of Africans

cohesive and united policy."

"There is no evidence to

British troops in 1879.

launched across South Africa by more than one million brigade members. "We are trying to warn the

defiance campaign would be

TEC and President De Klerk's government that if they don't give in to our demands, they are leading the country to disaster," he said.

Youth Brigade members will also begin what he called a "voter education programme." 'We will be teaching people that there is a right not to

The campaign would not result in violence, he added. "I don't think it will lead to violence because we are a disciplined organisation," he said.

Meanwhile one woman was killed and a man was wounded when masked gunmen opened up with automatic rifle fire on a disco in South Africa's Natal province late Monday, South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC) radio reported

A police spokesman told SABC the men fired through the security gates of the disco in the central Natal town of Newcastle on a crowd of about 25 revellers before fleeing by

The attack follows a similar one in Natal 10 days ago, when gunmen lobbed three handgrenades before opening fire on swimmers in a public pool in the east coast port city of Richard's Bay, injuring one teenager.

Seven black men, including five suspected members of the hardline Azanian People's Liberation Army (APLA) were arrested.

son Mandela's African Nation-

al Congress, the party tipped

Natal was the site of the

outbreak of hostilities 10 years

ago between Inkatha and the

ANC. Since then about 18,000

to win the April elections.

Aung San Suu Kyi is healthy — visitor

BANGKOK (R) - The first non-family visitor allowed to meet Burma's detained Nobel Peace Prize laureate Aung San Suu Kyi in more than four years said he found her fit. healthy and happy to be a symbol for the Burmese peo-

"She looks healthy. She is in the process right now of a very strict exercise, meditation reg-imen," U.S. Congressman William Richardson told the British Broadcasting Corpora-tion's (BBC) World Service Television.

Mr. Richardson, a New Mexico Democrat, and three others including a U.N. official based in Rangoon and a reporter from the New York Times. had a surprise four-hour meeting with Mr. Aung San Suu Kyi at her Rangoon home Mon-

day.
She told her visitors she had no intention of leaving her homeland but was ready to negotiate with her jailers on other issues

Burma's military rulers have said she could be released from house arrest any time she promised to leave Burma and to refrain from involvement in

"She is not unhappy, she is content with the fact that she feels she is representing her people in this exile," Mr. Richardson said.

The New York Times reported Tuesday that Mrs. Aung San Suu Kyi had said the government "had tried to pressure me to leave in ways no self-respecting government should try. The concept or driving somebody out of their country is totally unacceptable to me.'

'Whatever they do to me, I can take it." she was quoted by the Times as saying. The 48-year-old opposition

politician has been held at her lakeside house since detained by the military government in July, 1989. Mr. Richardson said that de-

spite his visit and other signs of loosening up, the ruling junta, the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC), still held many other political He echoed the views of di-

VIENNA (R) - North Ko-

rean diplomats resumed talks

with the International Atomic

Energy Agency (IAEA) Tues-

day over inspection of the

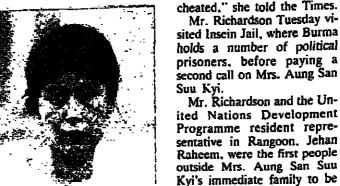
hardline Communist state's

An IAEA spokesman said a

first round of talks took place

Tuesday morning, breaking

nuclear sites.



allowed to see her.

Mr. Raheem also accompa-

Mr. Richardson met Bur-

ma's powerful intelligence

chief, Lieutenant General

Khin Nyunt, Monday and was

scheduled to meet senior

SLORC officials again Tues-

day before leaving for Bang-

amid mounting speculation ab-

out a possible easing in the

SLORC's attitude to Aung San

A Japanese journalist who

visited Burma in mid-January

reported she might be freed in

July. Burmese sources and

foreign diplomats dismissed

the report as a misunderstand-

A few days later, Burmese

authorities pulled the guards

from outside her home on Inva

Lake, although guards re-mained on duty inside the com-

Australia has urged the Bur-

mese government to follow up

its easing of restrictions on

Mrs. Aung San Suu Kyi by

Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans said he hoped

the visit would lead to her

immediate and unconditional

release and he urged Burma to

release all other political de-

Burma's deputy intelligence

chief told visiting Japanese

journalists Tuesday Mrs. Aung

San Suu Kyi will remain under

the security act under which

Mrs. Aung San Suu Kyi was

held came into effect only in

July 1990, and the previous

year of detention was consi-

tween Mr. Kim and Mr. Clin-

ton.

dered an "arrest period."

Colonel Kyaw Win said that

house arrest until 1995.

releasing her.

tainees early.

The Richardson visit came

kok in the evening.

Suu Kyi.

nied Mr. Richardson to Insein

Jail Tuesday, witnesses said.

Aung San Suu Kyi

plomats in the area who warned that the visit did not mean the repressive junta had necessarily changed its spots. "The message there is they

(the regime) obviously want to loosen some things up. Hope-fully this will lead to a discussion between the two," Mr. Richardson said. "I do agree that the SLORC

— the existing government has made some positive steps recently but, again, we have to wait and see.... we also have a lot of other thousands of political prisoners," he said.

Speculation in diplomatic circles that Mr. Richardson was due to meet Aung San Suu Kyi for a second time Tuesday could not be immediately confirmed by the U.S. embassy in Rangoon.

Until Monday's visit, Mrs. Aung San Suu Kyi had met no outsiders except her husband, British academic Michael Aris. and their two teenaged sons, since her July, 1989, detention.

Her party, the National League for Democracy (NLD), convincingly won 1990 elections that SLORC held after forming in September, 1988, in the wake of the military's crushing of a nationwide pro-democracy uprising.

But it then ignored the result and systematically eradicated all forms of opposition, throwing thousands of prodemocracy politicians and activists into prison.

"It must be very exhuasting for them to go on lying. Elections were promised elections were held. The people feel

the two sides were unable to

The IAEA boards of gov-

ernors is expected to declare

Pyongyang in breach of its

non-proliferation treaty (NPT)

at a meeting next week unless

North Korea agree to inspec-

absolute leader Kim Il-Sung is

believed to have proposed a

meeting with U.S. President

Bill Clinton amid the mounting

crisis over North Korea's sus-

pected nuclear arms program-

me, it was reported Tuesday.

through U.S. Southern Baptist

Evangelist Billy Graham, who

met the North Korean presi-

dent and party chief when he

visited Pyongyang in late Janu-

ary, Japan's Jiji Press quoted

official South Korean sources

The sources said that Mr.

Kim had offered to hold a

meeting of working-level U.S.

Mr. Kim made the proposal

Meanwhile North Korea's

obligations under the nuclear

N. Korea resumes talks with IAEA

agree terms.

Sting gets rock award

LONDON (AFP) Internationally-acclaimed pop-star Sting, former lead singer with the group The Police, was named best British male solo artist here at the prestigions Brit Awards ceremony. Top-selling pop band Take That and Irish singer-songwher Van Morrison were also how oured at the event celebrating the best of the rock and pop industry held at London's Aicxandra Palace. Morrison inciceived a special award for his contribution to the British record industry. His award was presented by former Benny hostage John McCarthy who said that one of the things he remembered most from his years in captivity was fellowhostage Brian Keenan singing. Morrison's songs while they were chained to a wall. The accolade for best single of the year went to northern England band Take That for its song Praya number one hit in Britain last year which helped confirm the group's position as one of the best-selling bands in the world. Highest-selling album of 1993 was Bat Out Of Hell: II: Back Into Hell by U.S. veteran star Meatloaf.

aszil tak

AIRICH, Su v become G

p become pixings release pixed since pixed move poland move

15th

top qualifier.

denation in

Hong Kong !

(sich to h

MITTUAR

pris Cup ti

on to play i

ly winni

partier Davi poter has i

be the forms

Better did n

le Tissie

SOUTHAMI

gored in the

ali wo pen.

of Livings of Livings

1306 on 2 S

part on So bated drive gateeper i

ga found la

master from hetres). La

enval his affect for a

th, and [ar

k jith was

med South

Main the

gred as hi

Chesnoi

HILADEI

go of Russ

ijs Indoor

ag and Pro

te ibird set

South Afric

Liment of C

Lis. West

199 199 98543

bidding
Pess
Pass
Pass
Pass
Pass

Jackson sings on witness stand

DENVER (AP) - Michael Jackson snapped his fingers and sang a couple of verses from his megahit Billie Jean Monday while testifying in a federal copyright infringement lawsuit over the song Dangerous. The American pop star was the first witness to testify Monday as the second week of the civil trial began. The case may go to the eight-member jury later in the day. Smiling and appearing confident, Jack son sang parts of Billie Jean. which was released on his decade-old Thriller album, to illustrate the composing process. He said he wrote the lyrics for Dangerous while sitting in the dark and listening to the bass track of another of his songs, Street Walker. "I like to sing in the dark, Jackson said during his 50 minutes of testimony. "I don't like people looking at me unless I'm on stage." Dangerous was the title track of the album that Jackion released in 1992. He copyrighted the song in February 1992. but his lawyers said he first recorded it in 1990. Jackson said he couldn't remember [🐴 song. The album sold 14 million copies. The pop superstar rolled into the Denver Federal Courthouse in a gray van with tinted windows, avoiding reporters. Jackson reportedly was flown to Denver Sunday

New York to arrange an exchange of emissaries as the initial steps towards talks be-

In a separate development, six members of the U.S. Congress defence subcommittee left for Washington Tuesday after a three-day unadvertised fact-finding mission in South Korea related to the North Korean nuclear impasse, the on a private iet. U.S. embassy said.

The six, led by Democrat John Murtha, head of the Defence Subcommittee of the House Ways and Means Committee, were to report to President Clinton on their return, an embassy official told AFP.

During the visit, which started Sunday, the group met with South Korean Defence Minister Rhee Byung-Tae, Acting Foreign Minister Hong Soon-Young, Senior Presidential Secretary for Security Affairs Chung Chong-Wook and U.S. embassy and military officials, he said.

other 42 victims, whose corp-

ses were placed in mass graves

and four boys were among the

Burmese workers to sneak in

and out from here. When they

die nobody cares about them,

victims buried there.

Gravediggers said 16 girls

"It's normal practice for

at a charity foundation site.

Man bites dog

MOSCOW (R) — A man. seized an Alsatian dog that jumped at his in a park in a Ukrainian city and bit it to death in front of its owner, ITAR-TASS news agency said Monday. ITAR-TASS said the dog, named Elsa, may have been aroused by a strong smell of alcohol emanating from the 37-year-old man as he walked through the park in Dnepropetrovsk. When Elsa pounced, the man sank his teeth into the dog's throat.

U.S. navy ship rescues 'sheepwreck'

DUBAI (R) — A U.S. Navy frigate enforcing U.N. sanctions against Iraq went into action to save 700 sheep on a ship drifting in the Arabian Sea, the navy said Monday. The USS Curts, accompanying the aircraft carrier USS Indepenedence whose planes patrol Iraq, towed the Indian livestock vessel Shah Al Hasam to safety Saturday, the U.S. Navy said Monday. The freighter had been adrift for 15 days with no food and little water when it was found by the Curts about 100 miles southeast of Oman. The crew of 23 ran up a makeshift sail after the engine failed on a voyage from Somalia to Dubai.

Closing the barn door after the horse has bolted

OSLO (R) - Norway's National Gallery has tightened security and replaced windows. with stronger glass after thieves stole one of the world's most famous paintings, The Scream by Edvard Munch. The painting was priceless. Norwegian media said the robbers left a note which read: Thanks for the poor security." The gallery also placed a 24-hour guard in the rooms of the special Munch exhibition.

receptive to the idea that they needed to draw closer together were unrealistic. to protect their own interests." she said. In the past decade, there has

been a high level of violence between Zulus supporting Buthelezi's Inkatha Freedom said.

enough to change leader

blacks have died in political violence throughout the coun-Ms. Hamilton said the memory of Shaka was invoked by

those who wanted to mobilise Zulus along ethnic lines because he symbolised the creation of order out of chaos. Ms. De Haas, in a recent academic paper written with

fellow-researcher Paulus Zulu, said Buthelezi's plans for a highly autonomous Zulu state "While Natal is ethnically

homogenous, rifts in political culture are so serious that it has become the Lebanon of South Africa," their paper

change their leader before the

next general election, saying "I

think it would be so silly that it

"The shock of what hap-

pened in 1990 (when Mr. Ma-

jor replaced Margaret Thatch-

er after a leadership coup) is

still quite strong among active

Conservatives and I think the

idea of that happening again

would horrify them so it would

Speaking shortly before

flying out to join the prime

minister who is visiting Russia,

Mr. Hurd also urged the Tory

party to unite over Europe,

particularly in the run-up to

"We should now put for-

ward as a united party our idea

of what Europe should be," he

told prospective Tory candi-

dates for the European Parlia-

June's Euro-elections.

ment in London.

won't happen.

be crazy."

three weeks of deadlock, and a second round was fixed for later in the day at the U.N. watchdog agency. "The discussions are under Hurd: Tories would not be 'silly

way again," IAEA spokesman David Kyd said. North Korea's envoy to the IAEA, Yun Ho-Jin, met offi-

cials of the agency' division for the first time since negotiations broke down on Jan. 25.

nuclear sites for the past year. Talks with the IAEA, the U.N. agency charged with enforcing international safeguards against the spread of nuclear weapons, stalled after

North Korea's Stalinist government has refused to allow inspections of seven declared

and North Korean officials in Thai ferry death toll reaches 43 marked grave along with the

as saying.

RANONG, Thailand (R) -Authorities Tuesday called off a search for more bodies from a boat that capsized in a southern Thai river while ferrying illegal Burmese workers home, although dozens more victims are thought to be in the water.

"A Burmese colonel on a joint border committee told us they do not intend to follow this accident up and said we

could deal with it as we saw fit. so all we can do is bury the bodies and close the case," a police officer supervising the search told Reuters. Rescue workers recovered

the body of a Burmese boy in known death toll to 43.

boy, who was about eight years old, was buried in an un-

the river Tuesday, bringing the

The unidentified body of the

a local businessman said. to counter Pakistan

India throws open doors to Kashmir ment of the situation in the Amnesty has been camthe actions of the Indian secur-

NEW DELHI (AFP) - India has launched a campaign designed to counter Pakistani charges of human rights abuses in Kashmir by throwing open the doors to the northern state gripped by a Muslim separatist

Indian Foreign Minister Dinesh Singh announced Monday on his return from a visit to ...ree European capitals that Amnesty International would be allowed into the Himalayan territory claimed by both India and Pakistan.

The announcement came just days after New Delhi gave the green light to the International Committee of the Red Cross to visit Kashmir and on the heels of a trip to the state by a team of European diplo-

The ambassadors to India of Belgium, the European Community. Germany and Greece spent six days in Kashmir last week for a first-hand assess-

valley torn by nearly five years of separatist strite. They visited Srinagar, the

urban hub of the Muslim rebellion against Indian rule, and other towns, met Kashmiri Muslims and also toured the refugee camps of Kashmiri Hindus forced to flee their homes.

Speaking to a parliamentary commission here following his trip to Brussels, London and Paris. Mr. Singh said Amnesty would be allowed to send teams to Kashmir on a "caseby-case" basis.

We are following (a policy of) greater transparency on Kashmir." the foreign minister said.

"There is a danger that the separatist and terrorist groups would utilise such visits to put on dramatic shows for the visitors and for the media, but the transparency should be continued." he said.

paigning for years for permission to probe alleged human rights violations in Kashmir. India's only Muslim-majority state, and Red Cross officials here said they wanted to

launch humanitarian relief Amnesty and other human rights groups have repeatedly denounced the conduct of the Indian security forces in Kashmir, accusing them of carrying out summary executions of suspected Muslim militants and

other abuses.

The new policy of greater openness on Kashmir coincides with attempts by Pakistan to push through condemnation of India at international conferences and a war of words between New Delhi and Islama-

At a recent meeting of the U.N. Human Rights Commission in Geneva, Pakistani Premier Benazir Bhutto likened

ity forces in Kashmir to those of the Nazis.

Indian President Shankar Dayal Sharma responded by saving Ms. Bhutto was "out of touch with reality" and Minister of State for External Affairs Salman Khursheed described her as a "hot air balloon running out of gas." A Pakistani spokesman de-

nounced Mr. Khursheed as a "rented Muslim" before both governments temporarily toned down the rhetoric. Prime Minister P.V. Nara-

simha Rao urged visiting U.S. Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan meanwhile to pressure Pakistan to return to the negotiating table. "It is for friends of Pakistan

such as the USA to persuade it to sit with India to discuss all issues affecting bilateral relations including the Kashmir problem." Mr. Rao told Gen. Moynihan here Monday.

India's now-retired Foreign Secretary Jyotindra Nath Dixit met senior Pakistani officials in Islamabad during the first week of January but the talks failed to produce any breakthrough.

India and Pakistan have fought two of their three wars since independence over Kash-India, which holds the south-

ern two-thirds of Kashmir, accuses Pakistan, which holds the northern third, of arming and training Muslim militants. Pakistan denies the charges

but provides diplomatic and moral support to what it describes as a legitimate struggle for self-determination.

Meanwhile. Panidt Hindus. the largest minority in mainly Muslim Kashmir, complained Monday that Muslim militants had driven nearly all Hindus from the Kashmir Valley with a brutal campaign of "ethnic cleansing."

fu hi gran 20 | **S** Along with right wing Afripasses all of the province is a kaners seeking a white homeweak historical claim," she land, the king and Mr. An authority on Shaka at the Buthelezi have rejected an in-Tt Tc da 48 (\$ **NEWS IN BRIEF** Irish Protestants step up attacks

BELFAST (R) — A string of thwarted attacks using bombs hidden in St. Valentine's Day chocolate boxes has left Northern Irish Catholics afraid of a upturn in sectarian violence against them. British army experts defused one bomb early Tuesday. It had been left in a heart-shaped tin in front of a house in a Catholic area of West Belfast that is an Irish Nationalist stronghold. On Monday an elderly Catholic woman picked up a similar chocolate box and a bouquet of flowers from her doorstep. Her son, suspicious after hearing of an earlier failed St. Valentine's bombing, threw the box out of

a window into the back garden where it exploded. Australia recognises Macedonia

CANBERRA (R) - Australia recognised the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia Tuesday, but said the country needs to change its flag before it can set up a consulate in the Australian capital. "Our early agreement to the opening of a consulate would be much assisted by a statement on the public record by the government of (Macedonia) that it is prepared to act immediately, or at least as soon as the necessary legislative majority is achievable, to change the country's flag," Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans said. Greece and Macedonia have been embroiled in disputes over borders, flags and the republic's name since Macedonia was formed following the breakup of the former Yugoslavia. The Macedonian flag currently includes the Star of Vergina, a nationalist symbol that Greece finds offensive.

U.S. backs new plan for Haiti

WASHINGTON (R) - The United States has thrown its weight behind a new plan to end the crisis in Haiti despite the clear reservations of exiled President Jean Bertrand Aristide, administration, officials said Monday. The plan calls for the formation of a broad-based government that could command a parliamentary majority which could then set into motion a political process leading eventually to Mr. Aristide's return. The plan is being spearheaded by members of a Haitian parliamentary delegation which has been visiting the United States for the past week.

Patten fails to win Aussie support

SYDNEY (AFP) - Hong Kong Governor Chris Patten left a meeting with Prime Minister Paul Keating Tuesday without winning Australia's public endorsement of Britain's drive for greater democracy in the colony. But Mr. Patten said that since he didn't come to Australia seeking Mr. Keating's support, he was not disappointed and was delighted with what he described as "an extremely satisfactory meeting." Talks lasting 75 minutes at the prime minister's official residence in Sydney ranged over bilateral trade links, regional issues such as the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) group and Hong Kong's future after the British colony reverts to Chinese sovereignty in 1997. Mr. Patten, who is on a six-day visit at Mr. Keating's invitation, told reporters his visit was aimed primarily at persuading even more Australian businesses to use Hong Kong as a springboard to China.

g gets

award

DON (AFP ationally-acclained

here at the press

wards ceremony pop band Take of the singer-tongor at the event calculations at the event calculations.

at the event celeby

st of the rock and

ry held at London's

Palace. Morriso

a special award is

oution to the Britis

elling bands in the w

kson sings

vitness stand

VER (AP) ~ Kg

on snapped his for

ang a couple of re

his megahn Billir

ay while testifying

t over the song day. The American paper

he first witness to be

ay as the second

vil trial began The

go to the eightner ater in the day sai

opearing confident

ang parts of Bille

was released on

e-old Thriller alba

ate the composing

He said he with

for Dangerous with

tine dark and listen

ess track of another

, Street Walker. "[E

n the dark, Jackson

g his 50 minutes de

ng at me unless le "Dangerous was te

of the album that iz

ed in 1992. He copp e song in February

is lawyers said le

ded it in 1990. Jaz

he couldn't reac

he first recorded

opies. The popsor

into the Denverle

house in a gray var

windows, avoiding

rs. Jackson repor-

private jet.

n bites dog

d at his in a porti

in front of its or

-TASS news agent

ay. ITAR-TASS #

named Elsa, mar

, navy

o rescues

e enforcing U.N.

against Iraq wa

to save 700 sheet

vessel Shah Al Ha

1. The crew of Zing

sing the ^{barn}

se has bo^{lted}

m by Edvard Much.

Fing was proches

egian media said his

left a note which

left a note poor si

nks for the poor si

The gallery also his

me gard in the public

ur guard in the 100 pecial Munch exhibit

r after the

Dubai.

"I don't like 🖪

NEWS IN BRIEF

Brazil take up race with World Cup holders

ing, former lead in the British make ZURICH, Switzerland (AFP) - Brazil have overtaken Italy to become Germany's closest chasers in the FIFA worldrankings released here Tuesday. Because the Italians have not played since mid-November, they fall to seventh place. Holland move up from seventh to third. Nigeria move up three places to 15th and remain Africa's top ranked country. World Cup qualifiers Saudi Arabia are the best from the Asian federation in 36th place. England have dropped down one place to 12th since the last rankings were released Dec. 31. Hong Kong made an impressive 14 place rise to 98.

Stich to help Germany defend Davis Cup

adustry. His award ted by former b STUTTGART, Germany (AP) - Michael Stich, the world's second-ranked player, ended months of speculation with the second-ranked player, ended months of speculation with the amouncement Monday that he will help Germany defend the amouncement Monday that he will help Germany defend the amouncement Monday that he will help Germany's cup this year. Stich, the key player in Germany's minimph last year, told his country's Davis Cup officials he will help Germany defend the day when the team opens against Austria in late March. "I in captivity was be play when the team opening that decided matters, the play want to play for Germany — that decided matters, the want to play for Germany — that decided matters, the want to play for Germany — that decided matters, the want to play for Germany — that decided matters, the want to play when the team opening that decided matters, the want to play when the team opening that decided matters, the want to play when the team opening that decided matters, the want to play when the team opening that decided matters, the want to play when the team opening that decided matters, the want to play for Germany — that decided matters, the want to play for Germany — that decided matters, the want to play for Germany — that decided matters, the want to play for Germany — that decided matters, the want to play for Germany — that decided matters, the want to play for Germany — that decided matters, the want to play for Germany — that decided matters, the want to play for Germany — that decided matters, the want to play for Germany — that decided matters, the want to play for Germany — that decided matters, the want to play for Germany — that decided matters, the want to play for Germany — that decided matters, the want to play for Germany — that decided matters, the want to play for Germany — that decided matters, the want to play for Germany — the want to play for Germany st single of the accommentate on winning a Grand Slam rather than seek orthern England another Davis Cup title. Germany's other top player, Boris That for its player, has not announced whether he will play this season That for its song has been been one int in Britas, thich helped continues to position as one.

Becker, has not announced whether ne will play this section.

But the former world no. 1 will skip the Austria match while which helped continues to regaining a place in the world top 10.

Becker did not play for Germany's 1993 Davis Cup cham-

st-selling album of at Out Of Hell: It Le Tissier hat-trick leads Southampton

SOUTHAMPTON, England (AP) - Matthew Le Tissier scored in the game's first minute and completed a hat-trick with two penalties Monday night to lead Southampton to a 4-2 upset of Liverpool in English soccer's premier league. Le Tissier's first score came just 28 seconds into the match before 18,306 on a snowy night at the Dell. Taking the first shot of the game on Southampton's opening surge, the striker's rightfooted drive from 25 yards (metres) out beat Liverpool goalkeeper Bruce Grobbelaar. Le Tissier then helped make it 20 in the sixth minute. His corner to the Liverpool penalty area found Iain Dowie, who headed the ball to Craig Maskell. Maskell, playing his first game since a £250,000 (\$375,000) transfer from Swindon, headed it home from three yards (metres). Le Tissier nailed a penalty two minutes before halftime, then followed with another five minutes after the interval, his 14th and 15th goals of the season. Liverpool rallied for two late scores. Dicks converted a penalty in the 68th, and Ian Rush put in the rebound after Dicks, low drive in the 86th was deflected by goalkeeper Dave Beasant. The win moved Southampton out of the relegation zone, from 20th to 17th in the 22-team league. Liverpool, which could have moved as high as third with a victory, remained fifth.

Chesnokov outlasts Tarango in U.S. Open

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Seventh-seeded Andrei Chesno-kov of Russia outlasted Jeff Tarango of the United States 6-4, 1-6, 6-4 in a baseline duel Monday in the first found of the U.S. Indoor tournament. Chesnokov, a runner-up at Hamburg and Prague last year, served an ace to take a 5-4 lead in the third set. He won the match in the next game with a high volley as Tarango lost his service game at love. In other matches. Luiz Mattar of Brazil defeated Grant Stafford of South Africa 6-2, 6-4, qualifier Doug Flach downed Sebastien Lareau of Canada 6-4, 6-3, and Jakob Hlasek of Switzerland defeated Thomas Enqvist of Sweden 6-3, 7-5.

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAH HIRSCH

GOREN BRIDGE

WHAT'S MY LINE?

East-West vulnerable. South lown to Denver & NORTH A A J 8 7 2 ♠ A J 10 COW(R) - At WEST\$643 776543 an Alsatian dog! 209 inian city and bit SOUTH ♦ K 10 5 ∇.8 ◊ A K aroused by a strong The bidding ohiol emanaring for South West ar-old man as he will Pass ar-old man as he will Pass

1 4 2 7 4 4 4 7 6 4 gh the park in 1: 34 trovsk. When 5 30 ced, the man sale 50 into the dog's the Page Opening lead: Four of > More often than not, there's more than one way to play a contract and sometimes it takes a computer to PESCUES

Work out which of the various lines is best. Cover up the East-West cards and decide which is the percentage play on this hand.

Note North's solution to a difficult rebidding problem on the sec-

ond round. After South gave a jump preference to three spades, North showed club support and a cue-bid-

ding sequence led to the top spot.
No player worth one's salt would rely on a finesse alone, so those lines can be discarded. The approach we like is simplicity itself. Win the dismond, cash the ace of hearts and ruff a heart, then lead a club to the

If the king of clubs drops, your troubles are over and you're playing for an overtrick. If both defenders follow, but the king does not appear, ruff dummy's remaining heart, cash the other high diamond and exit with a trump. Whichever defender wins must either lead a spade and solve your problem in that suit, or solve your problem in that suit, or else yield a ruff-sluff—either way six clubs rolls in. If trumps are 3-0, cash the acc-king of spedes and, if the queen doesn't drop, fall back on the heart finesse.

Zis Mahmood found an attractive

Zia Mahmood found an attractive alternative. He cleared diamonds and immediately took a trump finesse. That wins any time West holds the king or East has a singleton king. When East won and returned a trump, Zia cashed the accking of spades, intending to finesse in hearts if nothing good happened, and all was well. and all was well.

Kerrigan's coach says Harding schedule a mistake

HAMAR, Norway (R) -Tonya Harding may have made a tactical blunder in waiting so long to travel to Norway for the Winter Olympics. Nancy Kerrigan's coach

Evy Scotvold said Harding's probable arrival Wednesday meant she would not practise her free skating programme in the same rink where she will compete until after the event

"They did the same thing (at the Albertville Games) in 1992 and it was a mistake then," he

ville three days before the women's event as a top medal favourite and placed fifth. Kerrigan and Harding are considered medal prospects in the games, along with European champion Surya Bonaly

Harding appeared in Albert-

Chen Lu of China. Scotvold said Kerrigan has learned a lot about the Olym-

MELBOURNE (R) - Au-

stralia's inclusion in the Asian

qualifying group would not be

welcomed by the region's

established soccer powers be-

cause of their strength, a top

Japanese club coach said Tues-

day.

Kiyo Kumo, coach of J-League side Jef United, said

Australia would provide stern

"We would rather Australia

opposition for Asian countries.

were not in the Asian group,'

said Kumo, speaking through

Kumo said Australia proved

they were a world-class side

when they lost 2-1 on aggregate

in their final qualifier against

Argentina last year after win-

ning the Oceania group and

then a playoff against Canada.

"All Asian people think that

way. The last qualification

games showed Australia were

extremely strong," added Kumo, whose side will play

an interpreter.

of France. World champion

Oksana Baiul of Ukraine and

pic ice and adjusted to the larger rink since arriving last

"It is 15 feet wider than our rink at home and it may be longer too," he said. "You have to adjust to that. If you do a jump in a comer, you have to adjust to the fact that it will take longer to get there in a larger rink.

"We have had two complete practice sessions of the long programme in the main rink and Nancy also skated here in the pre-Olympic event (skipped by Harding) last year."
The last scheduled practice

of the women's long program-

me in the competition rink is

on Monday. After that, all the long programme practices are in the smaller training rink. "Maybe it is not a problem for everyone. But it is a lot smarter to get there early. The practice times are one of the first things we look at for an

Olympic or world cham-

pionship. It's what decides

two friendlies in Melbourne

this weekend during their pre-

The Australian Soccer Fed-

eration is lobbying for a more

direct route to the World Cup

finals. They want the Oceania

group winners to play in the

If world governing body FIFA backs the move, Asia is

expected to be handed a third

qualifying berth for the 1998

Under the present qualifying

the Oceania group, beat the

runners-up in the Concacaf

group and then defeat the

runner-up in a South American

group to reach the World Cup

Jef United's German mid-

fielder Pierre Littbarski, a

veteran of three World Cup

campaigns, praised the prog-

ress made by Australia.

tem, , Australia have to win

when we get there.'

season tour.

Asian play-offs.

finals in France.

Asia wary of Australia

as World Cup opponent

Under the schedule, Harding will only get to rehearse her long programme with her music on the main ice Feb. 24, the day after the event starts. and the next morning before the free skating final.

A spokesman for the U.S. Figure Association said Harding had always planned a later

The timing had not been dictated by the legal wrangling over the metal bar attack on Kerrigan's knee at the U.S. championships in Detroit last month, he said.

Harding's ex-husband and her bodyguard have admitted their involvement in planning the attack but Harding has maintained she was not in-

An agreement was reached last Saturday under which the U.S. Olympic Committee would cancel a/scheduled hearing on Harding's conduct and she would withdraw a lawsuit against the USOG. That freed her to compete.

China tourney loses top seed

BELING (R) — Top-seeded Shi-Ting Wang of Taiwan pul-led out of China's first professional women's tennis tournament Tuesday because of tendinitis, one day after the start of play failed to attract a single paying spectator.

Wang, the world's number 28th-ranked woman player. withdrew from the \$100,000 China women's open after complaining of pain in her right elbow during morning practice, match organisers said in a statement.

"I will still consider coming back to Beijing next year if the tournament is held," Wang was quoted as saying, adding that she would return home to rest up for the Japan Open in

LILLEHAMMER WINTER OLYMPICS

Americans relax, rake in gold

LILLEHAMMER (AFP) -American ski racers took a beating in the build-up to the Winter Olympics but they have silenced their critics by winning the first two Alpine races.

Diann Rofee-Steinrotter followed Tommy Moe's downhill triumph with an unexpected win in the women's super-giant sialom and then put her finger on the secret for their success.

"We Americans really know how to relax and perform well," she said after most of the leading contenders either fell or fluffed their lines.

"The Olympics are a funny day. It's one day and one race and anyone can win," said the 26-year-old who announced she would retire at the end of the season. She first demonstrated her

ability to rise to the occasion by winning the world giant slalom title as an 18-year-old in 1985 but has had something of an up and down career. Fortunately her peaks have often coincided with the big day. Roffe-Steinrotter chose to

ski first and then had an endless wait as her main rivals failed to find any comparable monentum on the demanding lower twists and turns. Her biggest threat dis-

appeared when world champion Katja Seizinger of Germany fell soon after the start. Svetlana Gladischeva. whose hard-up Russian team was taken under the Austrian wing this season, denied 18year-old Isolde Kostner of Italy a silver medal.

Gladischeva became the first Russian to win an Olympic Alpine medal, just as her downhill bronze at Saalbach in 1991 made her the first Soviet to claim a world championship medai.

Roffee-Steinrotter, Olympic giant slalom runner-up in Albertville two years ago, is now a favourite for that event on Feb. 24.

Organisers, concerned about safety after Ulrike Maier broke her neck in a World Cup downhili in January, worked all night to clear icy patches off



U.S. Diann Roffe speeds to Olympic gold in Women's Super Giant slalom in Kritfjell (AFP photo)

the course which had been switched from Hafjell to the men's course at Kvitfjell.

Russia's Lyubov Egorova and Italy's Manuela di Centa reversed the order of Sunday's opening 15km freestyle and Egorova's 5km triumph allowed Russia to go above Norway at the top of the medals table.

The Russians should go further ahead after Tuesday night's figure skating when Sergei Grinkov and his wife Ekaterina Gordeeva should become the first of the former professional skaters to reclaim their Olympic title.

A change in rules allowed the professionals to return for these games and the 1988 champions have a clear lead after the first part of the competition.

Reigning Olympic champions Natalya Mishkutenok and Artur Dmitriev should make it a Russian one-two.

Marja-Liisa Kirvesniemi, who three gold medals at Sarajevo in 1994 in her third Olympics, became the oldest winner of an individual medal

in her sixth Winter Games. The 38-year-old mother of two is a year older than Eevi Huttunen, another Finn who won a 3,000m speed skating bronze at Squaw Valley in

Kirvesniemi was undecided about competing in Thursday's 10km pursuit, when the skiers start with the same time advantage from today's race as she is not as comfortable at the skating style. Austrian bobsledder

Gerhard Rainer became the first competitor at these Winter Games to be thrown out for

The 23-year-old Innsbruck policeman tested positive for steroids in a pre-Olympic test and was thrown off the team the day before last Saturday's opening ceremony.

Faced with a two-year ban, he said he would retire from the sport.

Gerda Weissensteiner of Italy, fourth two years ago, set a track record at Hunderfossen as she took a huge halfway lead of one fifth of a second in the

LABORATORY TECHNICIANS SERVICES NEEDED 1. The National Centre for Agricultural Re-

search and Technology Transfer (NCARTT) at Baq'a is seeking the services of qualified and experienced Jordanian laboratory technicians (firms/individuals) to install, test, operate and calibrate laboratory equipment at NCARTT's headquarters at Baq'a.

The required services will be for 2-3 months to start upon completion of NCARTT new building expected around mid April 1994. Work must be completed no later than July 31, 1994.

A list of the equipment to be installed, tested. operated and calibrated is available and will be supplied free of charge to interested parties upon request to the address shown below during Government work hours until 12 noon Thursday March 10,

Offers (including price quotes) to provide the required services should be submitted to the Chief of the Technical Assistance and Services Office (TASO), at the same address, along with C.V.s of the individuals to perform these services no later than 12 noon Thursday March 24, 1994. Offers must be valid for a minimum of two months.

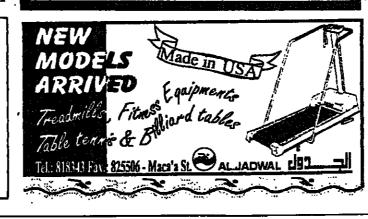
National Centre for Agricultural Research & Technology Transfer National Agricultural Development Project

Technical Assistance & Services Office (TASO) Baq'a-Jordan Telephone: 725411/2 Fax: 679677

Thursday Special 17- February Pre-Opening Night Turino تورينو معكم ليلة الخميس في قاعة كافسيتك آت تورينو (الجديدة

Quality Light Dining In Boutique Style:- Like You've Never Seen Before! Quality + DJ Repro Music Satellite Entertainment Three Different Channels

Enjoy The Turino Premier Service Cover Charge 3 JD.Per-Person Couples & Families Only Sweifiyeh - 816690 - 818637



Tel.: 677420





Madaba Mosaic School Italy - Jordan Cooperation

M.M.S. announces that a three years trainning course to be start to train proffessional trainners in the field of Mosaic Production and restoration.

Applicants should have at least a.B.A degree in fine arts, archeology or architecture from an accredited university Those interested may recieve further information at Madaba Mosaic School . Tel.08/540759

Note dead line for application 20/2/1994

drifting in the And the navy said Me Gotta Have It JSS Curts, accompa ience whose plans is towed the Indian Saturday, the US Monday. The has been adrift for 15 We have it no food and bith it was found by the Amra Hotel INALA Amman shift sail after the ca on a voyage from

Furnished Apartment For Rent Near the American Embassy in a newly-built building that consists of a villa and an

apartment

It has the following features: - 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms

- Brand new furniture

- Fully equipped brand-new kitchen - 60 square metres; open terrace

For more information please call 811019

Tcl.: 634144 PHILADELPHIA O (R) Notes O (R) Notes nat Gallery has up ity and replaced with stronger glass stronger glass stole one of the stronger glass stole one of the stronger glass stron 0 Jane Fonda - in D OLD GRINGO Shows: 12:30, 3, 8:30, 10:30 famous paintings in by Edvard Muse,

Tel.: 699238 Cinema Stallone...in CLIFFHANGER

Show: 12:30, 3:00, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

CONCORD '1' Last Action Hero Shows: 12:30, 3, 8:30, 10:30 CONCORD '2'

CONCORD

Batman Returns Shows: 12:30. 3.

Tel.: 675571 Nabil Al Mashini Theatre presents a play entitled:

AL lim Nuron A popular political comedy Actors: Abeer Issa, Daoud Jalajel, Hassan Al Sheer, Fued Shomali in addition to other comedians Every night at 8:15 Tickets are sold all day

Nabil & Histam's Tel.: 6251557 ahlan tejatre

Nabil and Hisham Theatre presents Ahlan Arab Summit Conference (play)

daily at 9:15 p.m. Theatre is closed Sundays, Mondays and Tuesdays

NEWS IN BRIEF

italian aid workers freed in Somalia

MOGADISHU (AFP) — Two Italian aid workers kidnapped in Somelia were freed Tuesday after 48 hours in captivity, Italian da Tats said in the capital Mogadishu. Their release was con in Rome by Italian Defence Minister Fabio Fabbri. wo, Sergio Passadore, 38, and Gianfranco ne agricultural aid agency CEFA, were freed in Jowhar, abc 150 kilometres north of Mogadishu. Gunmen abducted the wo in Jowhar on Sunday and demanded a \$50,000 ration which diplomats said was not paid. Their ight to five the number of foreigners abducted kidnapping t over a week. All of them, including two British men. A.s of parliament, have been freed.

Campaign launched to 'protect' settlements

TEL AVIV (AFP) - Settler leaders launched a campaign Tuesday to recruit volunteers to ensure the survival of all Israeli settlements in the occupied territories, after two ministers urged the removal of an isolated colony. "This call is issued to Israelis who don't live in (the West Bank) or Gaza to come and defend any settlement threatened by the government," Shai Bazak, spokesman for the settlers' council, told AFP. "Our aim is to have a list of thousands of people ready to turn out immediately to oppose physically the evacuation of settlements," he said. Mr. Bazak said there was no question of fighting, only of passive resistance such as lying on the ground.

Rafsanjani nominates moderate as minister

NICOSIA (AP) - A French-trained engineer was nominated Tuesday as Iran's new minister of culture and Islamic guidance, the country's equivalent of an information minister, Tehran's state-run news agency said. The official Islamic Republic News Agency, monitored in Cyprus, said the nomination of Mustafa Mirsalim by President Hashemi Rafsanjani was expected to meet with parliament's approval when it considers the nomination Sunday. Mr. Mirsalim replaces Ali Larijani, who was shifted to the post of head of radio and television on Sunday, taking over from Mr. Rafsanjani's brother Mohammad Hashemi, who was in charge of Iranian broadcasting for 13 years. Mr. Hashemi has been appointed deputy foreign minister.

Israeli navy seizes Lebanese fishermen

TYRE, Lebanon (AFP) - The Israeli navy abducted at dawn Tuesday five fishermen in Lebanese territorial waters and towed their boats towards Israel, fishermen here said. The five were on board two boats just south of the port of Tyre when an israeli gunboat intercepted them, a fisherman who was in the vicinity said. He charged that members of Israel's proxy militia manning a position overlooking Tyre opened fire at the fishermen at the same time but there were no casualties. The Israeli navy patrols the waters of South Lebanon, intercepting boats and seizing travellers or fishermen for questioning as part of operations to check for resistance fighters.

Jewish agency chief indicted for fraud

TEL AVIV (AFP) - Simcha Dinitz, the powerful head of the Jewish Agency and the World Zionist organisation, has been indicted for fraud for allegedly fiddling \$20,000 worth of expenses. Mr. Dinitz, a former Israeli ambassador to Washington, began leave of absence on Tuesday after attorney general Michael Ben Yair announced that formal charges were being pressed after two years of investigations. The 64-yearold Labour Party nominee who held the post for four years faces up to five years in jail. The Jewish Agency, a para-governmental body, oversees immigration to Israel and concentrates on work inside the country while the World Zionist Organisation focuses on the diaspora.

Russia executes 'Rostov ripper' killer

T

MOSCOW (R) - Russia has executed serial killer Andrei Chikatilo, convicted of 52 murders in three former Soviet republics during a 12-year rampage, Interfax news agency said on Tuesday. Chikatilo, known as the "Rostov Ripper." was shot on Monday in the southern region of Rostov-on-Don after President Boris Yeltsin rejected an appeal for clemency. the agency said. The former teacher was found guilty of raping and murdering 21 boys aged between eight and 16, 14 girls aged between nine and 17, and 17 older women in Russia, Ukraine and Uzbekistan strating in 1978. He was finally arrested in 1990. At this trial, relatives of his victims fainted as the horrific details of his crimes were read out to a stunned

Frag not complying, Havel tells Kuwaitis

KUWAIT (R) — Czech President Vaclav Havel said in Monday Iraq had "regrettably" failed to implement all U.N. resolutions concerning its 1990 invasion and seven-month occupation of Kuwait. Mr. Havel said he had discussed Iraq. Bosnia and Russia with the emir, Sheikh jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, in cordial and friendly talks on a brief working visit on his way home from a tour of India and Thailand. Mr. Havel said he reiterated during the four-hour visit that the Czech Republic considered Iraq had "regrettable" failed to implement all U.N. war ceasefire resolutions. "We still place emphasis on the need for Iraq to fulfil the requirements laid down in the U.N. resolutions which Iraq regrettably has failed to do so far," he told a news conference before departing.

Turkish ship attacked by pirates

DJIBOUTI (AFP) - Pirates have attacked a Turkish cargo ship off the coast of Somalia, stripping the vessel of all its equipment and robbing the crew of their personal belongings, a Turkish official said here Monday. Aden Chideh Robleh. Turkey's honorary consul to Diibouti, said the attack occurred last Thursday, shortly after the Castor-Malta left Djibouti for the Somali port of Berbera where it was to load a cargo of live-stock for a Somali merchant. Mr. Robleh said about three hours after leaving Djibouti. the ship was approached off the coast of Saylac by a speedboat with six armed pirates on board. He said the pirates, who came from Somaliland, the secessionist republic in northwest Somalia, forced the ship to head towards the coastline where it ran aground and then boarded the vessel taking everything possible, including the personal belongings of the 10 crew members, before fleeing. The crew had to use a lifeboat to reach Djibouti two days

British MP quits bench over Somalia visit

LONDON (AFP) - Pallician Tony Worthington has resigned from the Labour Party's front bench, apparently because his visit to Somalia was not sanctioned by the party. Labour leader John Smith had accepted Mr. Worthington's resignation "with regret." a party spokesman said Monday. It follows a meeting at the House of Commons between party whips and Mr. Worthington - whose overseas trip was highly publicised after he was briefly detained by Somali gunmen with the Conservative rember of parliament for Somerton and Frome in south-west England. Mark Robinson. Labour Party whips expressed anger last week that Mr. Worthington. 52, had visited Somalia in apparent defiance of party orders. Overseas trips with Tory MPs are banned for Labour MPs in the current state of non-cooperation between the two parties. "Mr. Worthington submitted a letter of resignation saying that because of the distress he had caused the party, and because party discipline is of paramount importance, with regret he had submitted his resignation." a Labour Party spokesman

U.N. probe finds Croats behind village massacre

By Suhair Obeidat Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - A massacre of the civilian population of the village of Stupni Do on Oct. 23, 1993, was carried out by troops of the Croation Defence Council (HVO), a United Nations report said Tues-

day. The report, released in New York and made available to the Jordan Times by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), includes the results of an investigation undertaken by the military police of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPRO-FOR) based on extensive interviews with the survivors of the massacre, as well as onsite investigation and photographic evidence.

The report concludes that Stupni Do, a small, predominantly Bosnian Muslim village two kilometres from the town of Varges, was attacked by the HVO from Kiseljak, Travnik and Kakanj under the command of Ivica Rajic.

Policeman

shot dead

in Assiyut

ASSIYUT, Egypt (Agencies)

— Suspected militants shot

dead a policeman and wound-

ed another as they went to

work on Tuesday in the trou-

bled Assiyut province of south-

ern Egypt, police said. Security forces launched a

search for the killers, who were

believed to be members of the

outlawed Al Gamaa Al Isla-

The shooting in the town of

Badari came a day after police

in Cairo shot dead three mili-

tants, including the head of the

Gamaa's armed wing, Sarwat

A total of 109 policemen

have been killed since the

Gamaa began its campaign

against President Hosni

Mubarak's government two

years ago, two-thirds of them

Meanwhile, the Interior

The shooting of a bus car-

rying Romanian engineers was aimed at the company, which

had recently laid off workers,

and not the passengers, who

escaped unburt, the ministry

And a blast which wounded

seven passers-by in a shopping

centre in the northern town of

Tanta was caused by a wartime

The ministry also criticised

news agencies for encouraging

the Gamaa by carrying its

The group has issued a series

of threats against foreigners,

bank depositors and investors.

It stepped up its operations after seven of its members

were killed by police in Cairo

two weeks ago. It claimed that

the men were shot in cold

Almost 300 people have

been killed in the two-year

battle between the militants

In Monday's incident, Egyp-

tian police killed three wanted

militants in a brief gunbattle

during a raid on a flat in Cairo.

The militants were members

Police went to the flat in the

poor southern quarters of

Sayyeda Zeinab to arrest the

three men, who were close to

seven militants shot dead in a

police raid in the northern sub-

urb of Al Zawya Al Hamra on

One security source named

the leader of the three as

Hagag, a Gamaa member

wanted in connection with

several acts of violence includ-

ing an attack on Austrian tour-

ists in old Cairo on Dec. 27.

shortly after dusk, when most

Cairenes are at home this

month breaking the Ramadan

The Egyptian authorities

have gone on the offensive

against the militants this

month, rounding up hundreds

of them across the country,

especially in parts of Cairo and

in Assiyut, a Gamaa stron-

Interior Minister Hassan Al

Alfi has said the government

intends to wipe out all "terror-

ists" - the official term for

members of the violent Islam-

to carry out seven operations

in revenge for the raid on the

Zawya Al Hamra flat.

The Gamaa has threatened

ghold.

ist groups.

The police stormed the flat

Feb. 1, the sources added.

of the Gamaa, they said.

and security forces.

security sources said.

shell, it said.

blood.

Ministry played down two re-

ported attacks on Monday.

in the Assiyut area.

So far, 23 victims have been clearly identified. A further 13 villagers of Stupni Do are unaccounted for and presumed dead, bringing the preliminary total number of

victims to 36, the report said. Most of the 193 survivors spoke of women being raped and a 54-year-old man being killed by automatic machinegun fire because "he possessed no money or valuables to hand over.

The village was attacked because its residents refused to hand over their weapons and submit to the HVO, which controls the villages surrounding Stupni Do.

To carry out the attack, HVO used small arms and anti-aircraft gunfire and many witnesses noted the apparent use of incendiary bullets by the attacking forces "as shells landing in the village set houses on fire," the report said.

Repeated attempts by the UNPROFOR to enter the village were consistently blocked by the HVO brigade,

GAZA CITY, Occupied Gaza

Strip (Agencies) - French

Foreign Minister Alain Juppe

on Tuesday urged Israel to free

Palestinian prisoners and halt

ments to boost Palestinian

He announced that Paris

would grant the Palestinians an

extra \$10 million dollars for

"Settlement must be frozen,

family reunification allowed

and prisoners freed and reha-

bilitated," Mr. Juppe told re-

porters after meeting Palesti-

mian delegations first in East

Jerusalem and then Gaza City.

France supported Palesti-

nian self-determination, as it

has done for 25 years, said Mr.

Juppe, the first French minis-

ter to visit the occupied Gaza

Strip.
"Our position is clear: We

want the published timetable

(for autonomy) to be followed

because if the peace process is

delayed it risks being bogged

"Confidence building mea-

sures are also needed, as I told

the Israeli authorities, and the

ties between Israel and France

allow us to demand them.'

autonomy.

which threatened the force with rocket-propelled grenade anti-tank weapons, small arms and barriers of anti-tank mines.

Two days following the attack, UNPROFOR troops were allowed to enter Stupni Do to find an empty village with all 52 houses burned down. Fourteen bodies were discovered, four men and three women were identified, but the rest were burnt, beyond recognition, the report said.

Two bodies were found to have crushed skulls and some appeared to have been burned on the top of destroyed houses. There were also several dead cattles lying about, many also burnt, and a strong odor of burnt flesh was in the air, the report

" In describing the incident, many "witnesses stated that the HVO attackers were wearing black uniforms with white bands on the left shoulder or green camouflage uni-forms," said the report. "Some had camouflaged

Juppe urges Israel to freeze

settlement and free prisoners

is under discussion at the-

autonomy negotiations be-

tween Israel and the Palestine

Liberation Organisation

(PLO) at the Egyptian Red

Mr. Juppe, on the third and

His calls came after he

pledged to step up military and political ties with Israel in talks

Monday with Prime Minister

Yitzhak Rabin and Foreign

In Gaza, the Palestinian de-

legation was led by local Fatch

leader Zakaria Al Agha and

Haidar Abdula Shafi, former

head of the Palestinian delega-

tion to the Washington peace

Dr. Abdul Shafi asked

France to pressure Israel into

ending human rights viola-

tions, freeing prisoners, freez-

ing settlement and im-

plementing the Sept. 13 auton-

Jerusalem he met a delegation

led by Faisal Husseini, the

head of Yasser Arafat's Fatch

movement in the occupied

The French foreign minister

Tuesday morning in East

omy agreement.

Minister Shimon Peres.

final day of his visit, said Paris

would help rehabilitate prison-

ers, he added.

while others had no identifying marks. Those wearing black uniforms also wore black baseball caps and were suspected to be members of an HVO "death squad" or special forces unit from Kiseljak. One survivor believed that HVO from Vares and the Babovac brigade from Kiseljak took revenge on Stupni Do as a reprisal for Bih Armija offensives in the region, in particular in Kakanj. With only two exceptions, none of the witnesses recognized any of the HVO soldiers as being from

faces and HVO patches,

"Several female survivors from Stupni Do stated that they had been raped by HVO soldiers during the attack. Others reported being rob-bed of their valuables and, in one case, of a 54-year-old grandfather being killed by automatic machine-gun fire because he possessed no money or valuables to hand

the local area, nor did they hear names being used, other

than nicknames.

"Several survivors also reported that they had witnessed the killing of three disabled and unarmed men found in one of the community shelters and the machinegunning to death of a 56year-old woman who had complained of a sore leg. One survivor also recounted hiding in a family basement with three other women and of being discovered by some HVO soldiers who, on entering the basement and inquiring if anyone was present, shot the three women who were offering to surrender." The report said that inves-

tigations are continuing in order to gain as much evidence as possible "with a view to identifying the perpetrators for eventual trial before the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia

U.K. depressives told to forget

pills, try poetry

BRISTOL, England (R) — A-study by British doctors has told people suffering from anxiety and depression to try reading poetry as an alterna-tive to taking pills. Doctors taking part in the study at Bristol University in southwest England found a few lines by poets such as Wordsworth, Keats or Browning can overcome a patient's need for pilk, the Daily Telegraph said Tuesday. With spending on antidepressant drugs running at more than £80 million (\$117.5) million) a year in Britain these literary prescriptions could also save, money for the state health service, the paper said. "I would have thought poetry is infinitely superior to any tablets just like music it is therapeutic," Dr. Alexander Macara, chairman of the British Medical Association of the study. "The pharmaceutical industry might not like it, of

Britain designs 'bomb proof luggage container

LONDON (AFP) — An aircraft baggage container capable of absorbing shock waves from bombs such as the one which destroyed a Pan Am jet over Lockerbie in 1988, has been developed in Britain, the Times reported Tuesday. The holder, made of a highly classified secret material, was designed by scientists at Royal Ordnance, a subsidiary of British Aerospace (BAE), and was on public display at London's Heathrow Airport. BAE will not manufacture the complete units, which could have a workdwide market of 300,000 containers, but will sell licences, the paper said. Development work on the container began in 1988, immediately after a bomb placed in the luggage hold of the Pan Am jetliner caused the plane to explode over the Scottish border town of Lockerbie, killing 270 people. Royal ordnance engineers told the paper the new design would not protect an aircraft

against much larger bombs. "You cannot protect anything against a really determined terrorist. Nor could this container stop a much larger device destroying an aircraft," said one. But airport security authorities should be able to detect bigger bombs than that usedover Lockerbie," he added. "-

Britain at top of Euro-jail league

eneral, in alliance with Prime Meanwhile, amid the tem-

bani troops. There was calm Tuesday in

the war-battered capital, where the fighting since the start of the new year has left hundreds of people dead and

Post daily cited Mr. Hekmatyar as telling it by telephone that a four-day ceasefire was in effect to support the peace efforts of Jallaludin Haqqani, an important leader who heads a mediation team in Kabul. But Mr. Hekmatyar, who is based in Charasiab on the out-

On the contrary, the fighting

Since the fighting began six weeks ago, at least 10,000 peo-

ceasefire in Kabul

KABUL (Agencies) — A fourday truce between warring factions officially began Tuesday. but artillery rounds blasted the perimeter of Defence Ministry compound in the besieged

were food shortages in Kabui that could turn into a famine unless the fighting stopped and the international community

anniversary of the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan, but the Central Asian nation remains mired in a war that shows no signs of ending.

of Uzbek forces in Kabul said Tuesday peacefully negotiations are preferable but fighting is inevitable if President Burhanuddin Rabbani does not res-

"We are against war and told AFP.

Pushtun, heads the Kabul forces of Uzbek General Abdul Rashid Dostum. The Minister Gulbuddin Hekmatyar's predominantly Pushtun Hezb-e-Islami faction, has been fighting pro-Rabbani troops.

porary bull in fighting, scores of civilians were seen evacuating the old Microrayan housing estate which is a frontline between Dostum forces and Rab-

would also step down as prime Mr. Raoufi denied allega-

tions by the state that Gen. Dostum forces had launched a coup against, Mr. Rabbani on

ple have been wounded and close to 1,000 have been killed. Hundreds of thousands of Kabul residents have been chased out of their homes, with many going to the eastern city of Jalalabad, 200 kilometres

Wobbling

In neighbouring Pakistan, the United Nations said there

stepped in to help. Tuesday marked the fifth

The top military commander

prefer a peaceful solution through negotiation, but if this General Rahmatullah Raoufi "We have the military

means to capture Kabul," said Gen. Raoufi, but stressed that the key to the end of the factional hostilities is Mr. Rabbani's unconditional resigna-

tion. Gen. Raoufi, an ethnic

In Pakistan, the Frontier

skirts south of Kabul, said there could be no permanent ceasefire until Mr. Rabbani quits, adding that he himself minister.

New Year's Day.

was started by Rabbani's commander-in-chief, ex-Defence Minister Ahmad Shah Masoud, Gen. Raoufi said.

The fate of the 11,000 said he urged both Israel and Palestinians still in Israeli jails an estimated 16,000 injured. No one, however, acknowledged a temporary ceasefire Sudan gets southern vice-president was formally operative.

KHARTOUM (Agencies) --Sudanese President Omar Hassan Al Bashir has named a police officer from south Sudan, Major General George Kongor Arop, as second vicepresident.

Gen. Arop, who was governor of Bahrel Ghazal state. south Sudan, joins Zubair Mohammad Saleh in the vicepresidency.

Gen. Bashir, in a ceremony broadcast live on state-run radio Omdurman Monday night, promulgated another major decree appointing governors for the recently created 26 states of Sudan, which has become a federal republic.

Some of the governors of the former eight states lost their jobs and others changed places, like Khartoum governor Mohammad Osman Mohammad Saeed, who has now been named as governor for the new Sennar state, in

Khartoum state was surprisingly given to Badreddin Taha, who was director general of the Agricultural Bank of Sudan, a position which he was

central Sudan.

believed to have filled competently to the extent that Gen. Bashir has given him a medal for his performance.

Two federal ministers, Ibrahim Oheidallah, who was until Monday minister of economic planning and investment, and Abdullah Deng Nyal, a southern Muslim and minister of peace and rehabilitation, were moved to governorships. Mr. Obeidallah given the central state and Deng the White Nile state, in northern Sudan.

A reshufle of the central government is expected soon and may be more than finding replacements for the two departing ministers, Some outgoing governors, such as Brigadier Al Taveb Ibrahim Mohammad Khair, who held the governorship of Darfur. could not be ignored, and are expecte to return to Khar-

'Offensive' planned

The government is allegedly massing child soldiers in neighhouring Zaire and the Central African Republic to attack

soumern rebels, relief officials said Monday.

timetable to implement auton-

who want the peace plan to

conference before leaving

Israel after a three-day visit.

trophe," he said.

"Failure would be a catas-

In the interests of making

the plan succeed, Mr. Juppe

said France would establish a

cultural centre in Jericho, ex-

pected to be the seat of Palesti-

nian autonomy, and help set

up Palestinian television

During his visit to the Gaza

Strip without any Israeli secur-

ity escort, Mr. Juppe met with

ine senior Palestinian officials

who complained that Israel

was undermining the peace

process through continued set-

tlement activity, doinglittle to

alleviate economic problems

caused by preventing Palesti-

nians from working in Israel

nor easing housing problems.

omy succeed we have to

change daily life in the occu-

pied territories, where it is often difficult," Mr. Juppe

"To make peace and auton-

broadcasting facilities.

Time works for those

omy as quickly as possible.

A major government offensive against the black and mainly Christian rebels, weakened by internal divisions, has driven more than 100,000 southerners towards the Ugandan border. "We have had reports of a

massive military buildup along the border with the Central African Republic, and there are similar reports from Zaire." Michael Semmler of the German relief agency Action Africa in Need told a news conference in the Kenvan capital Nairobi after a two-day visit to rebel-held territory in southern Sudan. Justin Arop Yac of the relief

wing of the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), said Khartoum had "bribed local officials" to turn a blind eye to the massing of Sudanese troops in remote, notoriously lawless areas of Zuire and the Central African Republic bordering Sudan.

"Most of the soldiers are just young boys, aged 12 to 15." Mr. Yac told AFP.

LONDON (AFP) - Britain has the highest rate of imprisonment in Western Europe, according to a Council of Europe survey published here late Monday by the prison watchdog, the Howard League for Penal Reform. The prison population in England and Wales climbed by a record 450 last week to 47,870 - nearly 600 more than the official capacity of the jail system and has risen by more than fiveper cent since Jan. 1, the survey cited in the Guardian newspaper, found According to the survey carried out on the prison population in 23 countries. Britain jails 92.1 people per 100,000 head of population - the highest rate in Western Europe. Germany has 78.8 inmates per 100,000 inhabitants. while Italy has 56. Only one other country of the states surveyed, Hungary, has a higher rate of imprisonment. Its 14,629 prison population represents 146 inmates per

Father withdraws appeal for devil of a name

TOKYO (R) - A Japanese father finally gave up Tuesday fighting authorities for the right to name his seven-month-old son "devil". "I am fed up with the fuss," the man said. Media reports quoted him as saying he had already made his point by fighting in court to give the boy the name Akuma, or Devil, and was tired of waiting for a final ruling. A spokesman at the Tokyo Family Court's Hachioji branch said the man withdrew from the case after the local ward office appealed a Feb. 1 ruling approving Devil. The ward office initially accepted the court ruling but decided to appeal on grounds it broke social norms after consulting the Justice Ministry.



strike gr

na strike Pakstinian Gara Strip movers in den a me

a Monda's grols acr Rednesda nginesses de strike c 50 12 WO meine pi

UPPale popen **accupiE** apital of \$1 gan Suh adhein F abes is Ga open once and Mr. dozen Pale de ventur افدوروو ion Ram **E**arled

tank has o tom itom attackin dilians MARTO

Sadanes

Wednesday

is lorces nan tarrets Sadanese Hussein Si told repor overnmer age fron General P myan Pres promy Ca thres he di

for a halt to n the rer Mr Abu S ière base iomation mack on bere invol donal figh meen reb

People's

bennselves

Barak t IEL AVJ Vednesda ⊌n:-Gene gaily cours

ita endir Rappoint The go in Gene

dail for out off r FRANKE DER (AF of the of batthe